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## Rabin expected to name Sneh as health minister

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin is expected to nominate MK Ephraim Sneh as the new health minister this afternoon, when the Labor central committee convenes.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is opposed to the appointment of Sneh, who deserted him to support Rabin during the 1992 party primaries.

Peres supporters are upset that Rabin is making a major appointment while the former is abroad; they also point out that Rabin would be violating an oft-stated commitment not to appoint a first-term MK to a ministerial post.

Sources close to Rabin said he is eager to unload the health portfolio for fear that the entire health system is about to collapse, especially the Histadrut's Kapat Holim Clalit, and he does not want this to happen while he is holding the portfolio.

Rabin assumed the portfolio when Haim Ramon resigned as health minister in February.

Rabin was due to phone Peres late last night to discuss the matter.

Sources said Rabin may seek to mollify him by promising to soon appoint another Labor minister to an as-yet-undetermined portfolio.

This additional appointment would likely go to either Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin or MK Avraham Burg — both from the Peres camp.

Peres supporters are angered nonetheless, and unless a truce is worked out by this afternoon, there may be an attempt by Peres loyalists to force a secret ballot at the central committee meeting and line up the camp's forces to defeat the Sneh appointment.

The Rabin side is taking no chances and is organizing an all-out mobilization to ram through the approval in the event of a showdown. The talk about a second ministerial appointment, however, is apparently geared to prevent such a showdown.

It is not clear when Rabin might appoint the second minister. According to some sources close to him, such an appointment would take place only after Shas re-enters the coalition.

At that point, the ratio of each party's ministers to MKs will be re-examined, and if Labor is found to be under-represented, either Beilin or Burg would enter the government.

This partly depends on how many MKs Shas will bring into the coalition. Shas MK Yosef Azran has already announced he will opt for the opposition; this may deny Shas the right to a second portfolio and thus deny the Peres camp the pretext for another appointment.

Sneh has a medical degree, which is apparently one reason why Rabin preferred him over several other candidates. Sneh's military past is considered an additional advantage.

MK Yoram Lass is also a physician and a Rabin supporter, but he has been critical of the government on occasion.

Rabin was expected to meet with Sneh late last night or early this morning, sources said.

## Sharon announces plans to run for premiership in next elections

SARAH HONIG

AN angry Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu suggested over the weekend that MK Ariel Sharon leave the Likud.

This followed an announcement by Sharon on Friday that he will seek the premiership, not only as his party's nomination, but as that of "the entire national camp."

MK Benny Begin, who lost to Netanyahu in last year's leadership primary, said "Sharon has as much of a chance at winning the nomination as he does at becoming the world tennis champion."

Sharon disturbed the Likud's relative calm during an interview on Israel Radio's weekend news magazine.

He was supposed to deal with housing issues, but instead announced he will seek the right's nomination for prime minister in 1996.

"I propose that all members of the national camp parties be entitled to participate in a primary to choose the single leader for the entire bloc," Sharon said.

Sharon said he is the candidate "best suited to meet the challenges ahead. What is at stake is saving this country, the state and possibly even the Jewish nation."

Netanyahu lost no time replying in a way he had until now been reluctant to do, telling both Sharon and his other relentless rival, MK David Levy that "the best thing Sharon can do for the national camp is to rid the Likud of his presence."

He is a constant underminer who takes only about furthering his personal ambitions," Netanyahu said. "He has systematically been boycotting all elected Likud forums and has been fomenting divisiveness and discord, while refusing to accept democratic deci-

sions and attempting to demolish all frameworks. He had sought to undermine the late Menachem Begin and after him Yitzhak Shamir. I am simply the next in line."

MK Dan Meridor said "the Likud cannot constantly be placed under the strain of never-ending competition by a few frustrated figures who cannot reconcile themselves to the fact that they lost and someone else was elected."

Likud secretariat chairman Yehoshua Matza said that "with his refusal to accept the results of the recent primary, Sharon placed himself effectively outside the party and should do us all the favor of taking the formal step and walking out the wide-open door."

Likud Knesset faction chairman Moshe Katsav, another of last year's primary candidates, said he now "fully supports Netanyahu. I am unequivocally behind him, but I oppose all talk of demanding that anyone leave the party, and I think there should be a unified leadership."

Levy kept quiet over the weekend, and not a single party higher-up came out in Sharon's favor.

Outside the Likud, Moledet's Rehavam Ze'evi said "the national camp must field only a single candidate in the next elections, as any split of our vote will only benefit the left. The national camp's candidate, moreover, ought to be chosen by the largest party, which is the Likud."

Tsomet's Rafael Eitan, who a few months ago threw his own hat in the ring, said he disagrees "with all those who maintain that more than two candidates means a split vote. Perhaps I can take votes away from Labor."

(Analysis, Page 2)

## Gal initiates formation of new hawkish Labor-Likud group

SARAH HONIG

LABOR MK Gedalya Gal caused a stir in the Labor Party Friday by inviting Likud MKs to join a new political circle that will deliberate defense and foreign affairs issues. Known as a Labor Party hawk,

Gal is head of the Knesset finance committee and one of the leaders of the Moshav movement.

Among the Likud MKs who attended the meeting at his home in Kfar Vitkin were Michael Eitan, Dan Meridor, Avraham Herschson, David Magen and Ovadia Eli. Gal's Labor Party guests were all from the party's hawkish side — Ori Orr, Micha Goldman and Eli Goldschmidt.

The group agreed to meet again soon.

## Gov't orders crackdown on Palestinian political activity in Jerusalem

BILL HUTMAN and DAVID MAKOVSKY

THE government has issued tough new guidelines to the police for handling Palestinian political activity in eastern Jerusalem. *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

This apparently marks a reversal of the long-standing hands-off policy that police have been under orders to carry out.

Palestinian political organizations, including the PLO headquarters at the Orient House in eastern Jerusalem, are to be more heavily scrutinized.

The guidelines issued over the weekend are likely to go into effect as early as this week, sources said.

They were finalized at a meeting Thursday attended by Prime Minister Rabin, Police Minister Moshe Shahal, the head of the General Security Service, Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz and Jerusalem police chief Aryeh Amit.

The Police Ministry spokesman declined to comment on the meeting, saying Rabin had ordered no official statements on the subject.

Meanwhile, senior PLO figures have drafted a constitution for the Palestinian Authority that declares Jerusalem the capital of the state of Palestine.

The PLO's London-based legal committee faxed a copy of the 21-page draft to the Associated Press in Jerusalem.

Article 5, on the first page, unequivocally declares Jerusalem as "the capital of Palestine."

It goes on to say that "during the transitional period, the Palestinian authorities may set up the Government Headquarters in any other place in Palestine."

The Palestinian Authority plans to set up offices in Jericho pending resolution of the Jerusalem issue.

Rabin reiterated on Friday that institutions connected to the Palestinian Authority must all be run



PLO chairman Yasser Arafat and Fatah central committee member Abul Adeb participate in a meeting in Tunis of the newly-formed Palestinian National Authority. (AP)

from Jericho.

"All the power centers of the Palestinian Authority will be in Jericho," Rabin told a Tel Aviv foreign affairs forum on Friday.

Rabin's remarks come a day after an interministerial panel known as "the committee for the safety of Jerusalem" met with the premier to discuss steps to ensure future Israeli control over the city.

The panel is headed by Shahal, with representatives from the Defense and Foreign Ministries, the IDF and the General Security Service.

In his remarks on Friday, Rabin avoided questions about Israel's

relationship to the Orient House. The building has been operational since the Madrid conference in the fall of 1991, when the Likud was in power.

When asked about the Orient House, Rabin said "there are certain phenomena that have occurred in Jerusalem over the years that would have been better if they did not happen."

Meanwhile, on a related issue, Rabin told the Tel Aviv group that Israel retains a say which Palestinian policemen will be deployed in Gaza and Jericho.

He disclosed that Israel nixed the enlistment of a few hundred

Palestinian policemen deployed in Gaza and Jericho, apparently for security reasons.

Last week, Shahal told the Knesset that police were investigating reports of illegal political activity by Palestinian groups in Jerusalem and alleged operations of Palestinian security personnel there.

Palestinian officials in eastern Jerusalem have noted that both Labor and Likud governments have long looked the other way when it comes to their political activity in the city.

Police in the past have kept their distance during public meet-

ings of outlawed Palestinian groups opposed to the peace process. Palestinian sources also reported that the police know that armed Palestinian security guards operate in the city.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert issued a statement on Friday taking credit for the government's refusal to allow PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to visit Jerusalem now.

"The public campaign I opened several weeks ago has gotten results, and I am happy to hear that the government understands it is forbidden to allow Arafat into Jerusalem," Olmert said.

## Neveh Dekalim settler foils attack by ax-wielding Palestinians

ALON PINKAS and HERB KEINON

A RESIDENT of the Gush Katif settlement of Neveh Dekalim foiled an attack yesterday by three ax-wielding Palestinians, driving them out of the settlement where an IDF patrol captured two of them. The third escaped.

Army sources said the three burrowed under the settlement's fence and reached the office of the regional council. A resident on security duty spotted them and succeeded in driving them out of the settlement by brandishing his weapon.

He then alerted an IDF patrol which began pursuit, caught two of the terrorists and shot the third, who nonetheless succeeded in escaping.

The army yesterday began questioning the two who were apprehended, and notified the Israeli-Palestinian cooperation of-

fice of the incident.

Neveh Dekalim resident Yitzhak Golan said that warning sirens were heard in the settlement at about 8 a.m., followed by an announcement that three Palestinians were inside the settlement. "People were told to take up emergency positions in the settlement," he said.

Golan said the three entered the settlement through a breach in the fence. The guard post near the area where they entered was, for some reason, not manned at the time, he said.

It was the second infiltration into Neveh Dekalim, the largest settlement in Gaza, in five weeks. Late last month, also on Shabbat, a terrorist stabbed a woman sitting on

her porch. The terrorist was shot and killed by a Neveh Dekalim resident.

Golan said he does not think it is coincidental that the two incidents took place on Shabbat. "They know that on Shabbat there is a degree of laxness," he said. "People don't get up so early, there is less activity."

In another development, an IDF patrol and a Palestinian Police patrol nearly clashed Friday, when Palestinian policemen aimed their weapons at the Israelis, following a heated debate near the Erez checkpoint.

Details of the incident, which occurred near the Paz gas station adjacent to the checkpoint, were relayed to the Israeli-Pal-

estinian cooperation office for further investigation.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian Police officially apologized for last week's detention of Brig.-Gen. Doron Almog, commander of IDF forces in the Gaza Strip, calling the action "a misunderstanding."

The army said it accepted the apology for the incident, which was attributed to "unfamiliarity with the procedures of operation and authority on the part of the Palestinians," according to a military source.

In another incident, Arab pupils from Nablus vandalized the monument to the IDF fallen in the Jordan Valley, near Moshav Pitzael.

According to area residents, the pupils were part of a group that stopped near the monument en route to Jericho.

## Alexander Solzhenitsyn returns to Russia after 20 years in exile

VLADIVOSTOK (AP) — One day after returning from exile, Alexander Solzhenitsyn fired a broadside at the government yesterday, saying Russia is still far from democracy and has yet to begin real economic reforms.

The 75-year-old Nobel Prize-winning author spoke to reporters after touring a hospital and farmers' market in this Pacific port city, the first stop in a 10,000-km cross-country voyage to his new home near Moscow.

He said he wants to talk with ordinary people across the nation, then use his voice and pen to help Russia recover from "the plague of communism" and discover true patriotism and spiritual renewal.

He spoke with the same bluntness and anti-establishment fervor that led the Soviet leadership to expel him in 1974.

"In the West there is a widespread opinion, which is insulting to us, that Russians have no initiative and are incapable of building their own future," he told a news conference in Vladivostok's regional government building.

"We will never be able to achieve anything until we realize that we are the people and the masters of our own destiny. Only beginning with local self-rule will we be able to rebuild Russia from the bottom up. Democracy is the rule of the people."

"Where is our democracy? The people are cut off from power. The people do not control their own fate, they do not control anything. We do not have a democracy. As I have said many times, this is a pseudo-democracy," he said.

Solzhenitsyn arrived Friday after a 38-hour plane trip from Cavendish, Vt., via Alaska. He is accompanied by his wife, Natalia, and two sons, Yermolai, 23, and Stephan, 20. A third son, Ignat, 21, is studying music in the United



Nobel Prize-winning author Alexander Solzhenitsyn gestures as he talks to Russians in the central square of Vladivostok. Solzhenitsyn arrived Friday after 20 years in exile in the United States. (Reuters)

States.

The family has said it will take from two weeks to three months to traverse Russia. They have not announced their next destination, but are hoping to leave behind the horde of journalists hindering his plans to converse with ordinary Russians.

Widely hailed as Russia's greatest living author, Solzhenitsyn chronicled the cruelty of Soviet prisons and camps in his novels and historical works, including

*One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* and *The Gulag Archipelago*.

He spent eight years in the gulags for criticizing Soviet dictator Josef Stalin in letters from the front during World War II.

Solzhenitsyn drew laughter at the news conference by admitting that "when they jailed me in 1945, they were right. I really was against the regime."

Asked whether he regretted not having returned to Russia sooner,

he replied: "Not only don't I think I am late, I think I arrived at just the right time."

He said Russians were suffering from the "brainless" economic reforms launched by former Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar in 1992.

Solzhenitsyn said the only major economic changes have been the freeing of prices and the privatization of state-owned property and businesses.

"The people long ago began calling it 'plunderization.' And well they should have. It's massive privatization without accountability or control when, for token amounts of money, for nothing, people acquire our national wealth, when the national wealth is plundered," he said.

Solzhenitsyn expressed skepticism about importing Western political ideas and institutions to Russia. He even lamented the growing use of English words such as "briefing," "voucher" and "ratings."

"It's not only an illness of our language, it's an illness of our soul," he said.

He refused to give his opinion of President Boris Yeltsin. But he accused former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev of preventing the publication of his books in Russia for as long as possible.

He distanced himself, however, from extreme nationalists such as Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, whom he called "a caricature of a Russian patriot."

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# Arafat woos rivals

TUNIS (AP) — PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat launched a last-ditch effort yesterday to bring his rivals into a Palestinian National Authority that will administer autonomous Jericho and Gaza.

PLO sources said he dispatched Abbas Zaki, a member of the central committee of Fatah, to Damascus for consultations with hard-line Palestinian groups based in Syria.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Zaki would try to convince the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the second largest faction after Arafat's Fatah, to join the self-rule government, which Arafat will head.

The Marxist PFLP, headed by veteran terrorist leader George Habash, has opposed the PLO-Israeli autonomy accord.

But its leadership reportedly was contemplating joining the authority to pursue its opposition to Arafat's policy from within the emerging political system in the Palestinian entity.

A delegation from Hamas was due in Tunis this weekend.

Although the group has openly rejected the self-rule accord and

vowed to wreck it, it has held secret contacts with Arafat and demanded five National Authority seats. Arafat offered only two.

The administrative body will comprise 24 members plus Arafat under the May 4 accord signed with Israel. It will have legislative, executive and judicial powers in the autonomous Gaza Strip and Jericho.

So far, Arafat has selected 19 council members, including two women. They are mainly PLO activists from abroad or the autonomous territories with a few technocrats.

But a leading West Bank activist, Hanan Ashrawi, said yesterday she has rejected her nomination as information minister, insisting she wanted to devote her time to a Palestinian human rights group she recently founded.

Another prominent West Bank activist, Sari Nusseibeh, has not yet committed himself either way.

Of the remaining members, 14 were given portfolios in a meeting Friday. Arafat retained for himself the Interior Ministry, which will be in charge of a 9,000-strong police force deployed in the autonomous territories.

Other meetings of the authority members were scheduled over the next days to fill the vacant seats, complete the distribution of powers and fashion out the authority's political program and priorities, said Executive Committee member Samir Ghosheh.

He reported that the information portfolio was left vacant while efforts were under way to persuade Ashrawi to take it.

"It's more important to me to have a civilized society with functioning democratic institutions than to have a government post," she told the AP yesterday.

She has demanded Arafat provide guarantees that the national authority will not be run in the same way he has controlled the PLO. So far as is known, Arafat has not made such a commitment.

The PLO Executive Committee yesterday also approved the self-government program that reaffirms commitment to peace, Ghosheh said.

Although PLO officials deny it, the renewed commitment aims to meet Israeli concerns following remarks by Arafat interpreted as suggesting the peace deal signed on May 4 was temporary.



A Palestinian policeman stands guard outside Jericho's central mosque Friday during the weekend prayers. (AP)

## PLO assigns self-rule portfolios

TUNIS (Reuters) — The PLO has handed out 14 of 22 portfolios in the Palestinian self-rule administration in the Gaza Strip and Jericho area with Abu Ala, a key player in the secret peace deal with Israel, in charge of economy and trade.

Samir Ghosheh, a PLO executive committee member who was given the labor and social affairs portfolio, said the portfolios were handed out at a Friday night meeting in Tunis and consultations were continuing on those still to be handed out.

He listed the 14 so far distributed as:

Economy and Trade: Ahmed Qurei (Abu Ala), PLO economic

strategist who negotiated the secret accord in Oslo last year

Finances: Mohamed Zuhdi Na-

shabibi, independent member of the PLO's ruling Executive Committee

Planning and Economic Cooperation: Nabil Sha'ath, Cairo-based Fatah activist and key negotiator in the peace talks

Housing: Zakaria Agha, Gaza physician and leading Fatah official there

Communications and Posts: Abdul-Hafiz Achhab, physician from Hebron

Education and Teaching: Yasser Amr, Jordan-based independent Executive Committee member

Culture and Arts: Yasser Abed-Rabbo, PLO's information chief and close Arafat aide

Justice: Freih Abu Medein, prominent Fatah official and head of the bar association in Gaza

Labor and Workers: Samir Ghosheh

Social Affairs: Intisar Wazir (Um Jihad), widow of Arafat's military chief and strategist, Khalil al-Wazir, assassinated in Tunis in April 1988

Local Government: Saeb Erekat, Fatah official from Jericho who was deputy leader of the Palestinian peace talks delegation

Youths and Sports: Azmi Shuaibi, close associate of Abed-Rabbo

Tourism and Monuments: Elias Freij, Christian Mayor of Bethlehem

Health: Riyad Zaanoun, private physician who worked in Qatar before the 1991 Gulf War

The meetings were to resume late yesterday.

## Jibril Rajoub calls for east Jerusalem as capital

THE Palestinians will not be silent until a Palestinian state is established, with east Jerusalem as its capital, Jibril Rajoub, head of the Palestinian security services in Jericho declared Friday.

"The Israelis must leave our capital — east Jerusalem. Jerusalem is a red line for us," Rajoub said, at a reception held in honor of the Palestinian Authority by the Beduin community of Lakia northeast of Beersheba. Some 2,000 people attended the event, most of them political activists, both Arab and Beduin, who support the Democratic Arab Party.

Rajoub emphasized, however, that the PLO was committed to every word of the Cairo agreement. "Every person must honor the accord and the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinians. We are committed to peace."

MK Taleb a-Sanaa (DAP), who organized the event, called for the

establishment of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. "Rabin said Gaza will sink in the sea and we say that Gaza will drown the occupation on its way to establishing a Palestinian state. We will struggle until the end, until the establishment of a Palestinian state whose capital is east Jerusalem."

Rashid Abu Shabak, the Gaza liaison between the Palestinian Police and the IDF, said: "The light which shines on Jericho, will soon shine on the Negev and the Galilee, seeing that the Negev is Arab land."

Several leading Beduin personalities, including sheikhs who are known as Labor Party and Likud supporters, did not attend the event. Beduin sources said they did not attend the reception for the Palestinians because the meeting had a "blatant political character," which did not reflect the mood among the Beduin.

Leaflets condemning the meeting were also anonymously distributed.

## Support for peace talks drops

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PUBLIC support for further negotiations with the PLO has dropped sharply, a Dahaf Institute poll revealed on Friday.

The poll, published in *Yediot Aharanot*, said that 63 percent of the public is opposed to further self-rule negotiations with the PLO, and that more than a quarter of those who supported the Israel-PLO accord now oppose it.

The survey was taken last Tuesday and Wednesday, shortly after two IDF soldiers were killed in Gaza, and after PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's controversial Johannesburg remarks were publicized. In those remarks, Arafat called for Moslems to wage a "jihad" to liberate Jerusalem, and compared his peace accord with Israel to a truce signed by Mohammed with the Kuraish tribe in the year 628.

According to the Dahaf poll, only 35% of Israelis want to continue with the negotiations, while 2% did not respond. According to the poll, 27% of those surveyed said they have shifted from support of the accord to outright opposition.



Motorcyclists depart on a ride for peace Friday, going from the Erez checkpoint to Jericho. Forty cyclists participated in the Peace Now event. (Reuters)

## Netanyahu finally fights back

FORMER prime minister Yitzhak Shamir could not understand all the fuss surrounding Ariel Sharon's announcement that he would seek the nomination for prime minister on the eve of the next elections.

"So what else is new?" Shamir asked. "Arik announces challenges to all Likud leaders every few months with the regularity of the seasons of the year. This is not even a tempest in a tea cup. It is not news at all. Arik never really withdrew his last challenge."

Strictly speaking, he is absolutely right. Last time, Sharon entered the Likud's primary race with much fanfare and withdrew with a whimper, but never said he was giving up his quest for the party leadership.

He made it clear he was engaging in a tactical retreat and was only postponing his final offensive. Everyone in the Likud knew they would hear from him again.

This, however, has not convinced anyone that Sharon would necessarily run again. His bizarre

ANALYSIS  
SARAH HONIG

political history is replete with boisterous challenges that he has dropped just before the bell for the first round.

But something is different this time around — Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu's response.

He reacted as never before, telling Sharon that "if he cannot accept democratic decisions and cease to undermine party unity at a time so critical for the nation, then he would do best to leave the Likud."

There was never such tough talk from Netanyahu in the past, not even when faced with far more taunting provocations from his arch-nemesis David Levy. The message sent to Sharon was no doubt also addressed to Levy, who received it loud and clear.

Netanyahu has apparently reached the conclusion that he must say in public what he has

been only whispering privately against his political tormentors. He must stop trying to smooth things over, or he will never assert his authority on the party.

In fact, Netanyahu has little to lose by bringing the simmering conflicts in the Likud to a head and — from his point of view — better now than just before the next elections.

Levy and Sharon will not reconcile themselves to his leadership, and there is little chance for any peace-making. Netanyahu's recent overtures to Levy were rebuffed.

Forcing the troublesome Levy-Sharon pair out of the party might be the best solution, Netanyahu's aides admit. Neither Levy nor Sharon has much future outside the Likud, but they can cause far more havoc in than they can out, as the sad case of Yitzhak Moda'i (remember him?) amply illustrates.

Inside the Likud, Sharon cannot get his wish for a new primary unless he musters a 75 percent majority in the central committee, a task he knows enough not to even attempt.

Outside the Likud, the idea of cross-party primaries is unlikely, especially with the candidacy of Tsomet's Rafael Eitan still around.

Sharon made his attempt almost because he had to. Time is running out for him. He is not getting any younger, and if he does not try now he never will win. But as Benny Begin put it, "he has as much of a chance at winning the nomination as he does at becoming the world tennis champion."

## Hamas kills two Gaza residents as 'collaborators'

JON IMMANUEL

IZZADIN Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, took responsibility for murdering two Palestinians on Friday as alleged "collaborators," the first such murders since the expiry of an agreement with Fatah to stop such killings.

The two victims, identified as Hussan Doshan, 35, and Abdel-Wahab Ghali, 31, were found by police behind a factory in Gaza City. A leaflet claiming responsibility was found next to the bodies.

Fatah and Hamas signed an agreement on April 22, in which, among other things, Izzadin Kassam agreed to a one-month suspension of attacks on alleged collaborators.

Gaza sources said Palestinian police were investigating. Police spokesmen were not available for comment.

A Palestinian police commander said yesterday his forces would crack down on the squads that have killed hundreds of people suspected of cooperating with Israel.

"Nobody can be the judge and the hangman at the same time," Maj.-Gen. Nasser Yousef said in a speech to the Gaza Lawyers Association.

In another development, the Palestinian Police yesterday, for the first time, arrested a Gaza resident they suspected of being involved in criminal activities.

Hani Abed, 31, who belongs to the Islamic Jihad organization, was arrested in Khan Yunis and is being held in Gaza Prison, where he has been imprisoned before.

Islamic Jihad accused the Palestinian security forces of illegally holding Abed without charge, and said it would not stay silent in the face of such acts. They said Abed was a journalist working for the al-Abrar press and information center associated with the Islamic Jihad.

## Tsur delays free movement of produce from autonomous areas

AGRICULTURE Minister Ya'acov Tsur decided over the weekend to delay the free movement of agricultural produce from the autonomous areas into Israel, until a system of compensating Israeli farmers is in place.

Farmers organizations praised the decision, saying they feared for their livelihood.

The government is considering offering the farmers, as compensation, a grant equal to 20 percent of their production for five years, even if the farmer stops farming during that period. Finance Minister

Avraham Shohat, who is known to oppose this proposal, is to meet this week with farmers' representatives to discuss compensation methods.

Under the Cairo and Paris agreements, only certain fruits and vegetables are to be allowed from the autonomous regions at this stage. Other items, such as poultry and cucumbers, are to be permitted in "gradually" over the next five years.

MK Dan Titchon (Likud) demanded that a firm decision be

taken not to allow produce from Jericho and Gaza into Israel. He claimed that Gaza produce is watered with sewer water and is often shipped coated with dangerous levels of pesticide.

Last week, Agriculture Ministry director-general Yonatan Bashi met with Gaza leaders to impress upon them that Gaza produce would not be allowed into Israel until hygienic standards that prevail here are met, and that a system for checking and enforcing these standards was established. (Itin)

## Gov't may put Kupat Holim into receivership

JOSE ROSENFELD

Justice Minister David Liba'i, Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair, the state attorney, the official receiver and senior Treasury officials to the meeting.

According to Treasury spokesman Eli Yosef, should the fund be put into receivership, the receiver will be empowered to abrogate wage agreements as well as sell the fund's assets to keep it running.

Shohat said the government has fully honored its part of Clalit's recovery agreement, while the Histadrut has yet to honor all the

financial obligations it undertook for last year. Shohat warned that the government is getting ready for every possibility, to help avoid the fund's collapse.

Yosef said that no decisions were taken at last night's meeting, but that all the available options before the government were studied.

Meanwhile, talks over the weekend between the Treasury, Kupat Holim Clalit and the Histadrut failed to reach an agreement on how to get the health fund out of its financial crunch.

## Cabinet to hold debate on housing costs today

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Shohat opposes such an intervention, which, he argues, led to disaster during the Likud regime and forced Labor's government to purchase thousands of apartments nobody wanted and involved the government in lawsuits for losses incurred by contractors.

Meanwhile, the storm created by the state comptroller's report on the Housing Ministry has increased, following the comptroller's request that the attorney-general look into findings indicating Ben-Eliezer may have transferred funds illegally.

Ministry sources stressed last night that Ben-Eliezer's transferring funds to Beit Hapalmah — the incident in question — had been approved by both Rabin and Shohat.

Ministry director-general Arye Mizrahi and Israel Lands Administration director Michael Vardi, who were also slammed by the report, are expected to be replaced shortly.

According to Labor sources, the candidates to replace Mizrahi are Uzi Vardi-Zer of Solel Boneh, Amidar director Amos Rudin and project adviser Eli Museri.

Amidar chairman Yossi Ginosar is a candidate to replace Vardi. Former housing minister Ariel Sharon yesterday slammed Ben-Eliezer for the findings in the comptroller's report and accused him of "not having built a single house since he entered office."

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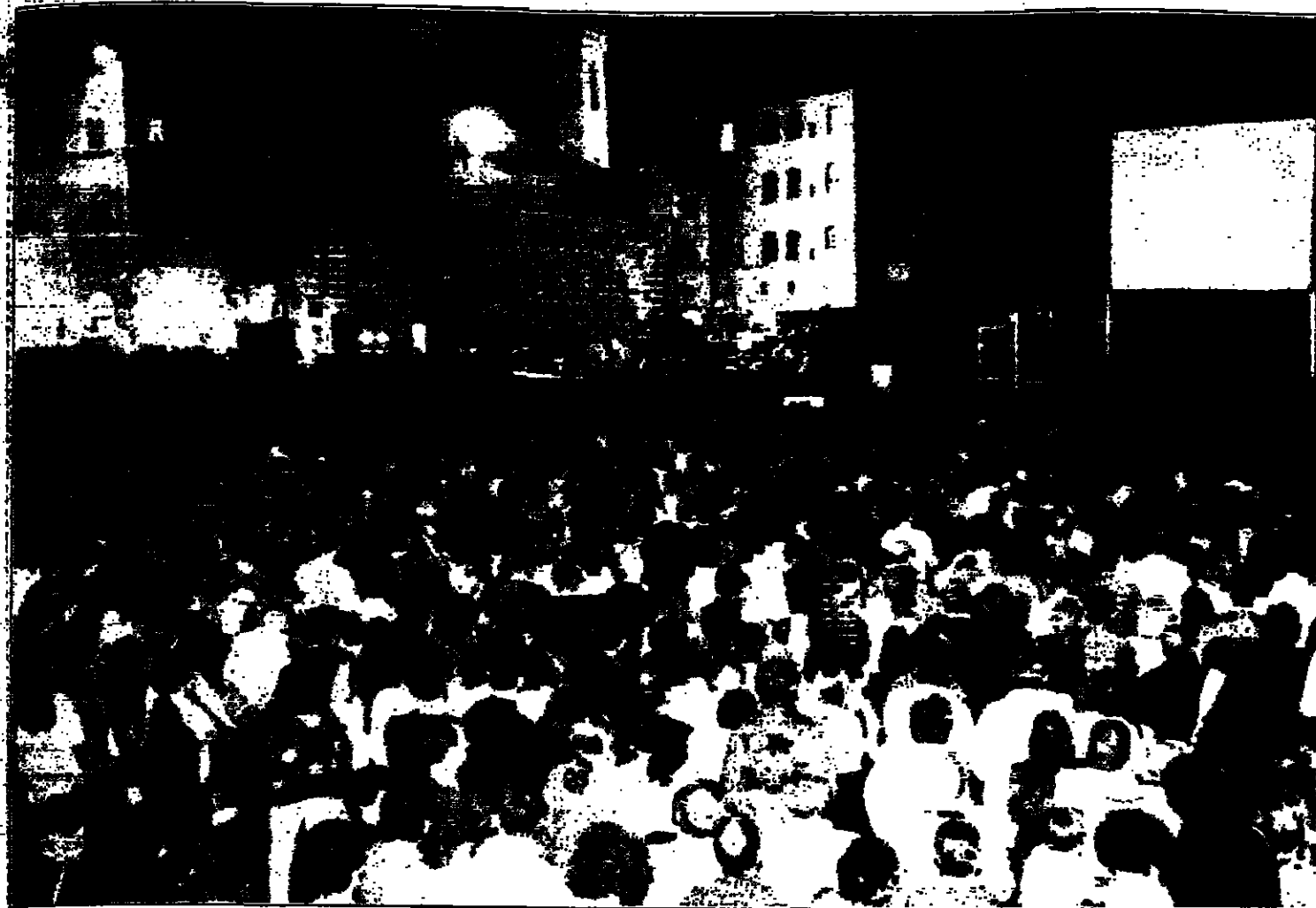
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Some 20,000 people gather in the medieval Piazza della Signoria in the center of Florence on Friday to mark the first anniversary of a bomb attack on the city's Uffizi Gallery, which killed five people and injured 50. (Reuters)

## Moslems protest as Serbs evacuated from Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (Reuters) — More than 300 Serbs were evacuated from the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo by bus yesterday despite bitter protests from a small group of Moslems whose relatives are detained in Serb prisons.

"My cousin has been in a Serb jail in Kula for more than two years and he wasn't even a soldier," complained 22-year old Amela Kurugovic, among the Moslem demonstrators.

"We don't want these (Serb) people to leave the city until our prisoners are released from Serb jails. They (the Serbs) have lived in Sarajevo for two years attending our schools and eating our food and now they want to make a propaganda against us by leaving and telling the world how bad conditions have been for them."

The mostly Moslem Bosnian capital has been surrounded by Serb forces since war broke out in Bosnia in April, 1992.

None of the Serb evacuees approached by reporters was willing to comment on their reasons for wanting to leave the capital.

UN peacekeepers protested yesterday after finding Bosnian government troops deployed

illegally in the military exclusion zone around Sarajevo and rival forces skirmished in artillery duels.

Rob Annink, spokesman for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), said 100 soldiers of the Moslem-led Bosnian army were found in the zone on Mount Igman on Friday.

A strong protest against the violation was being lodged with the Moslem command, he added.

Artillery exchanges involving Serb, Moslem and Croat forces were reported in northern Bosnia.

Bosnian Serbs blamed the Croat HVO militia for a shelling incident at Brcko on the Bosnian border with Croatia in which a civilian was killed and three people were seriously wounded yesterday.

Fighting between Moslem and Serb gunners was reported on the edges of the Moslem Tuzla enclave in the north.

Leaders of the warring factions accused each other of blocking progress in internationally

mediated peace talks.

Momcilo Krajisnik, head of the Bosnian Serb delegation to peace negotiations in the French town of Talloires, said they had not brought the factions closer.

The Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA quoted him as saying that Western and Russian officials, who hosted the meeting on Wednesday and Thursday, would have "a difficult task finding a concrete solution."

Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic of Bosnia's Moslem-led government gave a similarly pessimistic assessment.

"We haven't achieved much," he told Sarajevo radio. "Our delegation has performed responsibly, but the aggressor (Serb) side was not cooperative. They stuck by their same positions."

The Serbs earlier accused the Moslems of making "megalomaniac demands" for territory and Krajisnik, speaker of the self-styled Bosnian Serb parliament, told Bosnian Serb television that "nothing qualitatively new was achieved."

## South African security forces implicated in 1985 murders

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — South African security agents brutally murdered four anti-apartheid activists in 1985, a judge said yesterday. Relatives of the victims called on the guilty to step forward.

"In my opinion, there is ... proof that it was members of the security forces that in fact carried out the murders" of Matthew Goniwe, Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkhonto and Sicelo Mhlanu, Judge Neville Zietsman said in his 84-page opinion read out in his Port Elizabeth court room.

But Zietsman, a provincial judge who has been investigating the case for the past year, was unable to identify exactly who killed the four, and left it to the attorney general to determine whether anyone should be tried.

"I can't forgive and forget, or go on with my life, until I know the actual killers," Goniwe's widow, Nyameka, said after hearing Zietsman's findings.

"We cannot close this chapter yet. I am appealing to people to step forward."

The conclusion of the Goniwe inquest comes as the post-apartheid government led by Nelson Mandela calls for reconciliation between blacks and whites in South Africa.

Mrs. Goniwe expressed qualified support for Mandela's call. "I still have to know what it means for us who have lost so much. I hope there will be some kind of mechanism to deal with our pain."

Focusing on the brutalities of

the former government may make it difficult for Mandela, South Africa's first black president, to get the cooperation he needs from the police, army and intelligence services — still led by whites who may see a trial of those implicated in the Goniwe case as part of a witch hunt.

Mandela's African National Congress and its allies believe security forces killed thousands of activists and sympathizers during crackdowns in the 1970s and 1980s. But in case after case, official investigations had been unable to unearth links to top officials.

The ANC has offered amnesty to those who confess to using violence to further political aims before last December, when it was clear that his ANC and the former white-led government had forged a peaceful settlement.

The ANC, which stormed to power in April in the first South African election to include the black majority, now must decide how best to balance cries for retribution and calls for forgiveness; the urge to disclose and the need to heal.

The ANC contends the full story of the horrors of apartheid must be told if the nation is to move forward. But Mandela has also pleaded for reconciliation after decades of racial strife.

The ANC proposal presented Friday before the country's first all-race parliament would grant amnesty to anyone who fully disclosed political crimes committed before Dec. 5, 1993.

## Battles ease around Aden as peace moves intensify

ADEN (Reuters) — Battles between Yemen's armies tapered off around the southern stronghold of Aden yesterday amid moves by Arab states to involve the UN Security Council in efforts to end a three-week-old civil war.

A tense lull punctuated only by sporadic shelling appeared to have taken hold on fronts around Aden, a port city that northern forces have repeatedly vowed to capture.

The southerners appeared content to defend Aden against an army almost twice as large as their own. Officers said they had been ordered to defend their positions and not attack.

"With each day that passes they lose a little bit, and time is on our side," said southern Brigadier Saleh Tammah, speaking at a front line 43 km north of Aden's outskirts.

The war erupted on May 4 after nearly a year of quarrelling between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and southern strongman

Ali Salem al-Baidh; the two men who merged North and South Yemen into a single state in 1990.

Baidh announced on May 21 that the south was seceding from the union of 13 million people and called for international recognition of his new Democratic Republic of Yemen.

After a night of heavy shelling on the Zingbar front northeast of Aden, the area was quiet yesterday and southern soldiers appeared relaxed.

On the western front southern forces repelled a northern attack this week and the northerners fell back towards the former north-south border area of Bab al-Mandeb, some 100 km from Aden, southern officials said.

The southern air force, which has dominated the skies, is still flying out of Aden. Tammah said it was bombing northern supply lines.

"They have failed in their attacks on all fronts and have switched to defending the ground they have gained," he said.

## N. Korea slams door on UN nuclear inspections

VIENNA (Reuters) — Defiant North Korea has slammed the door on international inspections at its nuclear plant, fuelling suspicions that it is concealing evidence of a secret atom bomb project.

Its refusal to let UN experts take samples of spent fuel from the Yongbyon reactor, to determine whether the plant was used as a source of plutonium for bombs, is expected to force major powers to consider tough action.

The UN Security Council was considering meeting later yesterday to warn North Korea it has run out of patience after 16 months of squabbling over Pyongyang's obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Depending on North Korea's ally China, the Security Council could issue a final warning to Pyongyang to permit the inspections or face sanctions.

The United States, western powers and Asians have pursued a policy of gentle persuasion, offering economic concessions in return for allowing inspections and abandoning any nuclear-bomb aspirations it might harbor.

The secretive Stalinist state's blank refusal to permit reactor core sampling could spell the end of that approach. It coincided with

fresh reports that North Korea was preparing to test a nuclear-capable, long-range missile.

North Korea denies making nuclear weapons and warns sanctions would be an act of war — a terrifying prospect on the world's most heavily fortified frontier, where 35,000 US troops are committed to defend South Korea.

Japanese newspapers yesterday said information from a US spy satellite indicated preparations for a test launch of the Rodong-1 missile, believed to be capable of hitting major cities in South Korea and western Japan.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), nuclear safeguards arm of the United Nations, had hoped its inspectors would be allowed to take fuel samples at Yongbyon as North Korean engineers removed spent fuel rods for replacement.

"Unfortunately, no agreement was reached," the IAEA said in a statement yesterday from its Vienna headquarters.

North Korea "rejected all IAEA proposals...to select, segregate and secure fuel rods for later measurements so as to be able to verify the history of the reactor core, specifically to verify whether this is the first core."

North Korea "continued to maintain that in view of its 'unique status' it could not accept the IAEA verification measures proposed", the statement added.

Pyeongyang insists on "unique status" because it unilaterally suspended its membership of the safeguards accord of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

This formula, which is not recognized by the IAEA, would effectively give North Korea the ability to pick and choose which safeguards measures to respect.

IAEA director-general Hans Blix told UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali that only a few days remain to get the needed samples.

Blix said fuel was being discharged at a "very fast pace" which was not dictated by safety considerations.

"At the time of writing this report, almost half of the fuel in the reactor core has been discharged and in a pattern that has precluded the agency's ability to implement the full range of the safeguards measures required," Blix said.

About 3,000 of 8,000 fuel rods have been removed. If this continued at the same rate, the possibility of sampling would be "lost within days," Blix said.

## Gloucester 'House of Horror' wife accused of ninth murder — her teenage daughter

GLOUCESTER (Reuters) — The wife of accused "House of Horror" serial killer Frederick West has been charged with the murder of their teenage daughter, bringing to nine the couple's joint murder count.

Police said Rosemary West, 40, had been charged together with her 52-year old builder husband of murdering their daughter, Heather, between May 28, 1987 — the year she disappeared — and February 27 this year. She was 16 when she went missing.

The charges stem from the discovery of the decomposed remains of 11 girls and young women at two houses and in a field outside the western England cathedral city of Gloucester.

West's last home, at 25 Cromwell Street, in central Gloucester, was dubbed the "House of Horror" by

British media after nine sets of remains were exhumed from the property.

Heather's remains were one of the first to be discovered by police searching the garden at Cromwell Street in February.

Police have completed their search of the two houses, but are continuing to dig up a field near a village where West once lived. West's first wife Catherine and their eight-year old daughter, Charmaine, were among the bodies recovered.

Rosemary West has been charged jointly with another man on two counts of rape, while Frederick West's younger brother was charged on Thursday with the rape of two girls.

West is due to appear in court on June 2 and his wife the following day.

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#### Water and Drainage Projects

Thirty reservoirs, with an overall capacity of more than 25 million cu.m., dot the country from the Nahali Mountains in the north and the Beit She'an Valley to the Negev in the South.

Extensive drainage works have restored fertility to thousands of dunams of salinized soil in the Jezre'el and Yamne'el Valleys.

#### Combating Unemployment

In response to government call, KKL-JNF is employing some 3,500 jobless immigrants and demobilized soldiers and with their help has repaired and established dozens of recreation sites all over the country.

As part of this operation, landscaping was improved alongside dozens of kilometers of major traffic arteries in the northern, central and southern regions (in cooperation with the Public Works Department and the Employment Service).

#### The Hula Development Project

The first stage of the project has been completed. Some 2 million cu.m. of earth were excavated and the historical Jordan River channel repaired and restored. A 1,000 dunam water body was established and dozens of kilometers of canals dug out. The project is aimed at improving the quality of water flowing into the Sea of Galilee, bettering and upgrading agricultural areas and creating additional sources of income for regional residents (in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Israel Lands Administration).

#### Infrastructure for Tourism Projects

Work was stepped up in laying the infrastructure for tourism projects that create income for hundreds of families all over the country, from Goren Park and Ma'alot in Western Galilee, the shores of the Sea of Galilee shoreline and Huga Gardens in the Beit She'an Valley, to Nahal Besor's Scenic Route in the Western Negev.

#### Regulating and Rehabilitating Riverbeds

KKL-JNF has carried out dozens of projects to rehabilitate and regulate the riverbeds. River banks were repaired and reinforced. Riverbeds were cleared and regulated, averting winter-flood damage. Alongside some, rest and recreation areas were developed.

#### Afforestation

An additional 7.5 million trees were planted on some 83,000 dunams. Israel's man-made forests total some 800 thousand dunams in area and 200 million trees in number.

KKL-JNF forests and sites attract some 12 million annual visitors.

#### Battling Desertification

Innovative techniques were applied to arid-zone planting. Extensive areas were planted on the edge of the desert in an effort to roll it back and as part of the battle to halt desertification processes.

#### Site Preparation for Housing and Agriculture

KKL-JNF prepared land for the construction of 87,000 housing units at more than 50 locations around the country, thereby assisting in the absorption of hundreds of thousands of new immigrants and in providing housing solutions for many Israelis. In the agriculture sector, some 7,500 dunams of land were prepared.

#### Education and Youth

Some 40,000 youngsters from Israel and abroad spent summers at KKL-JNF forest camps and field centers, this, on top of KKL-JNF's ongoing educational work during the school year.

#### Missions and Visitors

More than 80 missions, numbering some 5,000 KKL-JNF active members and supporters from all over the world visited Israel at the initiative of KKL-JNF offices abroad.

Tourists and visitors planted some 120,000 trees while in the country.

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# China, businesses welcome Clinton's MFN decision

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton's administration moved yesterday to counter criticism it has surrendered human rights in China for economic gain.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher and senior officials maintained, in speeches and briefings, that the pursuit of human rights is still a priority, despite President Clinton's decision to extend China's favored trade status.

Officials gave out a list of ways the United States will push for improvements - through intensified diplomatic discussions with Beijing, support of human rights groups, working through the United Nations, contacts with dissidents in China, establishing new Radio Free Asia broadcasts and encouraging US firms to adopt a voluntary code of principles to govern business in China.

China said Clinton has created a historic opportunity to better relations with Beijing by cutting the link between China's human rights conduct and its US trading rights, China said.

"Chinese-American relations are important, and the importance far exceeds other bilateral relationships," Wu Jianmin, spokesman for China's Foreign Ministry, told reporters.

Wu expressed regret that Clinton banned Chinese gun imports. He also urged Clinton to lift a US ban on high-tech equipment sales to China imposed after Beijing used troops and tanks to crush democracy protests in Tiananmen Square in 1989.

"The current situation offers a historic opportunity for the enhancement of bilateral relations," Wu said. But he later added: "We also realize that it is wrong to say there are no obstacles in relations between the two countries."

China rejects outside attempts to influence its policy. Wu said Washington's concerns over human rights in China were unwarranted "and interfered in China's internal affairs."

China has promised it could make more progress without the threat of having its trade status revoked, Christopher said yesterday.

Chinese leaders "understand that the quality of the relationship between the United States and China will depend upon whether they make progress on

human rights," Christopher in response to a question after his Asia Society speech.

"We have their attention. They're willing to discuss human rights with us, if reluctantly," he added. For the past five years, US businessmen in China had watched anxiously during Washington's annual debate over MFN and human rights. So US firms were delighted at Clinton's decision.

"It's great. A very brave move," said Anne Stevenson-Wang, China director for the U.S.-China Business Council.

Phil Carmichael, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Beijing, said "It means I won't have to spend one-third to one-half of my time each year trying to get MFN renewed."

American businessmen feared that revoking MFN for China would invite retaliation from Beijing, freezing them out of the world's fastest growing economy.

Human rights groups, however, were critical, saying Clinton had removed all pressure on China to improve human rights.

The decision to renew MFN was a retreat from last year, when Clinton said China must produce "overall significant progress" on human rights this year to win renewal.

Human Rights Watch/Asia, based in New York said that "far from improving, the overall human rights situation has significantly worsened" since Clinton set his conditions on MFN in May 1993.

Few Chinese dissidents could be reached for comment, mainly because police have cut their phones or are holding them in custody. Dozens of dissidents have been detained in recent months, including leading activist Wei Jingsheng.

Lin Xinsu, an activist and traditional medicine pharmacist from the southeast coastal city of Fuzhou, said Clinton was right to engage China, not isolate it by revoking MFN.

"We want Chinese-US relations to be friendly. The United States can use other channels to raise the human rights issue," he said by telephone.

Ding Ziling, a professor and dissident in Beijing, said the MFN policy had achieved only limited human rights improvements.

## Indispensable Congress panel head Rostenkowski becomes dispensable

THIS was the plan: Dan Rostenkowski would finish out his three-decade House career by applying all his skill and clout to President Clinton's health-care reform drive, and go out in a blaze of righteous glory.

Instead he's trying to avoid indictments and jail time as a result of a federal probe into his use of office and campaign accounts.

Whether he is indicted or accepts a plea bargain, the burly Chicago Democrat is unlikely to be chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee much longer.

For years Rostenkowski has been a larger-than-life presence on Capitol Hill, a master deal-maker whose name is synonymous with power and influence.

No one denies there would be a leadership vacuum without him. The man in line to succeed him, Florida Rep. Sam Gibbons, does not cut nearly as wide a swath.

But Congress has remarkable regenerative powers. Few believe the loss of Rostenkowski would be anything but a temporary setback for health care.

Ways and Means committee members, who have a vested interest in promoting their own competence, say they are perfectly capable of carrying the ball on the president's top legislative priority.

JILL LAWRENCE  
WASHINGTON

Gibbons, 74, a trade expert, says he's not a novice on health and already is consulting on legislative matters with the Clintons. Rep. Pete Stark, chairman of the Ways and Means health subcommittee, predicts it would take the full committee only a week to reorganize and carry on if Rostenkowski left.

The Clinton administration for some months gave the distinct impression that Rostenkowski was pivotal to its health-care reform drive. Part of that was due to a tough primary race the White House wanted him to survive.

Clinton "very much needs Congressman Rostenkowski's help to succeed," Democratic Party Chairman David Wilhelm said before that election. Clinton himself said Rostenkowski had "played a critical role" in achieving the administration's goals.

The congressman did survive his primary, only to run up against the conclusion of the US attorney's two-year investigation.

Congressional legal sources say Rostenkowski has only two unpleasant options: Resign his seat in Congress, plead guilty to a felony and serve an unspecified jail

sentence; or reject the offer and risk indictment on wider charges.

A resolution could come by the end of tomorrow. But either way, Rostenkowski's 13-year tenure as committee chairman would end. Democratic caucus rules would require him to step aside if indicted.

The potential loss of Rostenkowski is far from the only problem facing the Clinton plan. The most serious ones, many believe, are the substantive ones: abortion battles, insurance premium caps, a tobacco tax, universal coverage, mandatory purchasing, co-payments and employers paying most health insurance.

Yet even as the Rostenkowski drama plays out, the nitty-gritty of congressional work goes on.

The political drama would continue to unfold without Rostenkowski. If a new chairman should fall short, House veterans say other committee members or perhaps even House leaders would step in and fill any breach.

It's always possible for the new chairman to surprise everyone.

Hidden talents emerge, people grow into jobs, Congress goes on.

As one Capitol Hill veteran warned, lest the lamentations over Rostenkowski get out of hand, "The graveyard is littered with the bones of indispensable men." (AP)



One of the masked hijackers, who seized a bus with 26 children and adults, leads a woman hostage carrying two bags of money to a helicopter on Friday. The standoff ended several hours later when Russian commandos captured the kidnappers and freed the hostages.

## One kidnapper escapes as Russian commandos free hostages from 'copter

MOSCOW (AP) - One of the gunmen who kidnapped a busload of people was not killed in a shootout as previously reported and is apparently still at large in a rebel region of southern Russia, officials said yesterday.

Russian commandos captured three of the four kidnappers and freed their hostages unharmed Friday. At the time, Interior Ministry officials said the fourth kidnapper was killed trying to escape.

But yesterday, a ministry spokesman, Yuri Reshetnikov, said he was not killed.

Instead, he escaped into the woods after the kidnappers' helicopter landed in Chechnya, a mountainous region of southern Russia which has declared independence, Reshetnikov said.

He said the man was being sought by Chechen militia and "volunteers." All four kidnappers were identified as Chechens.

Russian commandos' decision not to pursue the man in what they considered hostile territory underscores Chechnya's reputation as a fierce place and a breeding ground for ruthless criminal gangs. Most men in Chechnya carry weapons and strangers - especially Russians - are unwelcome.

"It is hard to find out anything from Chechnya," Reshetnikov acknowledged. "We know nothing about his condition."

He said the three other kidnappers, the ransom and the four hostages had all been returned to the southern Russian city of Mineralnye Vody Friday.

The ITAR-Tass news agency said it had conflicting reports about the fourth man's fate. Some said he was wounded but still on the run, others that he had been captured.

Mystery also surrounded the ransom. Russian officials have variously said the kidnappers got \$4 million, \$6 million, \$8 million and \$10 million in cash.

"This is the most difficult question," Reshetnikov said, admitting he did not have solid information about the amount recovered. He said the money was being counted yesterday and a tally might be available afterward.

News agency reports from Chechnya quoted local officials as saying \$4 million was recovered by the Russian commandos.

The hostage drama began when the gunmen hijacked a passenger bus. They traded several hostages, including all eight children, for guns and drugs and then drove the bus to Mineralnye Vody.

## Cypriot 'dragon' is only an owl

NICOSIA (AP) - How an owl will howl.

Thousands of people have been drawn to the medieval walls of Famagusta in the Turkish-ruled sector of Cyprus to listen to screaming and breathing-like sounds coming from inside.

Sheikh Nazim Kibrisi, an Islamic leader, sharpened public curiosity by claiming the sounds came from a 500-year-old dragon that was the legendary guardian of Famagusta Castle - where William Shakespeare set *Othello*.

They were a sign that "the day of judgment has come and that must be the end of the world - or of the Turks," the daily *Kibris* quoted him as saying.

Rauf Denktaş, Turkish Cypriot leader, was moved to announce that the sounds came from owls nesting in the dungeons of the castle, newspapers reported yesterday.

## Major defends tough line on beggars

LONDON (Reuters) - British Prime Minister John Major yesterday defended his view that beggars were offensive and should be arrested, stirring heated debate.

Opposition politicians, seizing on his words as ammunition in the campaign for the European Parliament elections, said he was personally to blame for throwing penniless teenagers on the street.

Charities for the homeless accused Major of failing to understand the problem, saying government policies had increased the numbers of homeless people forced to beg.

Major was quoted in the *Bristol Evening Post* on Friday as saying beggars were offensive and should be reported to the police.

"It is an offensive thing to beg," he said. "It is unnecessary. So I think people should be very rigorous with it."

Yesterday Major repeated his comments: "I stand by what I said," he told reporters as he campaigned for the June 9 elections to

the European Union assembly. "I set out yesterday what I think many millions of people in this country feel. There is no need for beggars on the streets."

Jack Straw, the opposition Labour Party's campaign coordinator, said Major's Conservative government was responsible for an increase in the number of beggars in Britain's cities.

"The number of beggars on the streets is a potent symbol of the social collapse that has occurred under John Major's government."

An acute housing shortage developed under Major's predecessor Margaret Thatcher after she introduced tighter social security regulations and a policy to discharge mentally ill people from hospital into the community.

Charities say many of those released under this policy have been living on the streets and begging. They also blame a 1988 policy denying welfare benefits to teenagers who the government said should be

cared for by their families. Straw said Major helped implement this policy. "As a social security minister it was he who was personally responsible for ending benefits for 16- and 17-year-olds who were causing the explosion of young beggars on the streets."

Nick Hardwick of the Centrepoint charity, which tries to find accommodation for the homeless in London, said government bureaucracy made it difficult for people to collect benefits.

"The problem is if you haven't got an address you can't get a job. On the other hand, if you haven't got a job it's difficult to afford a place to live," he said.

Major's comments struck a chord among some Britons who say they are intimidated by aggressive panhandlers.

Newspapers have published a series of stories portraying some as clever businesspeople who make a good living by fooling the soft-hearted.

## Convicted Lebanese murderer executed

BEIRUT (AP) - A man convicted of killing three policemen to escape arrest on drug trafficking charges was executed by a firing squad in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley yesterday, police said.

Shaker Breidi, 42, was the fourth murder convict to be executed since capital punishment was reintroduced March 22 to check a crime wave that threatened Lebanon's stability after the

end of the civil war in 1990. Breidi, a Shiite Muslim, was executed before dawn by a 12-man firing squad. The execution took place at a government prison in Chataura, eastern Lebanon.

He was convicted and sentenced to death last month after his arrest in a police crackdown against drug trafficking in the Bekaa, one of the world's most renowned sources of narcotics.

President Elias Hrawi and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri ratified the sentence.

During the anti-drug sweep, Breidi engaged policemen in a fire fight, killing three of them. He later was overpowered and arrested.

The government reactivated the death penalty after a long debate that followed the murder of an diplomat Naeb Imran Maayta in Beirut Jan. 29.

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL MEETING

### Program Highlights:

MONDAY, MAY 30  
9:00 a.m. Opening Plenary Sessions - Memorial Tribute

10:15 a.m. Academic Presentation  
12:15 p.m. Dedication of the Morris Goldstein Presidential Plaza and Inaugural Unveiling of the Presidential Founders Pillars

3-6 p.m. Committee Meetings  
8:00 p.m. Gala Concert and Reception in honor of members of Board of Trustees and Global leadership delegates.

Addressed by Mr. Mordechai Gur, Deputy Defense Minister.  
Gala Concert: Prof. Malcolm Bilson, Cornell University.

### TUESDAY, MAY 31

9:00 a.m. Plenary Session

11:00 a.m. Lecture on "Jewish Continuity - Israel and the Diaspora": Prof. Charles Liebman, Dept. of Political Science

Panel: Mr. Moshe Ishon - Editor in Chief, "Hatzofeh"; Dr. Avi Becker - Exec. Director, World Jewish Congress, Israel; Rabbi Dr. Pinchas Hayman - Director, Lookstein Center for Jewish Education.

12:30 p.m. Festive Luncheon in honor of Aharon Meir, former Chairman, Board of Trustees

2:00 p.m. The Dedication of the Dan and Ethel Levenson Law Library

2:30 p.m. Committee Meetings

8:00 p.m. Academic Convocation and Conferment of Honorary Degrees upon:  
Dr. Thomas G. Hecht  
Prof. Lawrence R. Klein  
Mr. Dan Levenson  
Mr. Samuel Schnitzer  
Prof. H. Eugene Stanley  
in the presence of Prof. David Libai, Minister of Justice

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

9:30 a.m. Plenary Session - Elections and Resolutions

12:30 p.m. Festive Luncheon in honor of Dr. Thomas G. Hecht.  
Guest of Honor: Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, former Prime Minister of Israel.

2:00 p.m. The BESA Center for Strategic Studies Symposium on "Israel Security and the Peace Process":  
Prof. Ephraim Inbar - "Israel's Security Predicament"  
Dr. Barry Rubin - "Israel's Negotiating Strategy in the Peace Process"  
Prof. Stuart Cohen - "IDF's role as we approach the 21st Century?"



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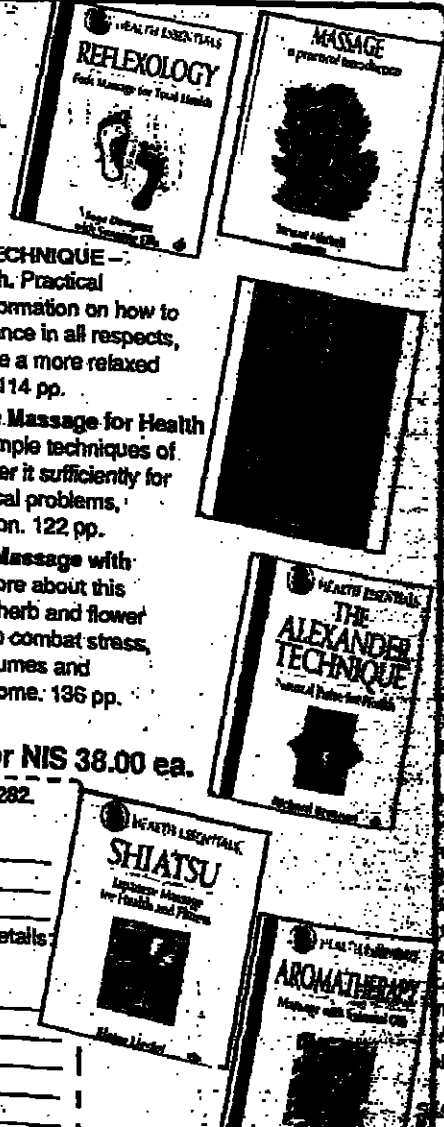
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## Reality and Assad's image

A first glimpse the news from Damascus last week was encouraging. For the first time, Syrian officials said they regretted the publication of an antisemitic diatribe. This expression of regret was short of apology or condemnation, but it nevertheless indicated remorse. It came in response to a complaint by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher about an article published in the English-language *Syria Times*, dictator Hafez Assad's personal mouthpiece, which asserted Jews had undue influence on US foreign policy and the American media. Reflecting the standard Syrian grasp of Western reality, the article also asserted 30 percent of Protestant bishops were Jews.

Nor was the Syrian response the only unique aspect of the story. That US ambassador in Damascus Christopher Ross protested in unequivocal terms, charging that the article "was written in an inflammatory tone reminiscent of Nazi propaganda," was also a first. No such protest against antisemitic manifestations in Arab countries has been registered by the State Department in recent memory.

And yet it is difficult to view the episode as a meaningful sign of progress. The Syrians, expressing regret about the content and tone of the article, made a point of stressing that it "had not been commissioned by the government and had no official standing." But nothing can be printed in the *Syria Times* without the express approval, if not instruction, of Assad's office. Its publication the day before Christopher arrived in Damascus was, as the Soviets used to say, "no accident." This is why it was clearly noticed: on other days and in the Syrian Arabic press, such articles are a common occurrence.

The "regrets" were clearly prompted by the Syrian desire to improve relations with the US, not to placate Israel. Someone in Assad's court must have realized that if Christopher considers antisemitic slanders repugnant enough to protest against them, it would be wise to express regrets. But the incident should give the American "peace team" pause. Unlike Israel's talks with the PLO, which have been conducted with virtually no American help, the talks with Assad are dependent on US involvement. And it is the Americans, far more convinced than the Israelis that Assad is sincere in his professions of peace, who are trying to sell the notion of Syria's good intentions to Israel.

Much of this selling takes the form of Assad-cleansing. The Syrian dictator is not only portrayed as a man of honor and integrity, he

is described as practically a double of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. A Reuter dispatch two weeks ago quoted US officials accompanying Christopher as saying that Rabin and Assad are "almost mirror images of each other... they are both former military commanders known for being tough and cautious, both are about the same age and both have declared that 1994 is a year of decision."

If the hype sounds familiar, it is because it is strikingly similar to the American descriptions of Saddam Hussein in 1990. Almost exactly four years ago, Senators Bob Dole, Howard Metzenbaum and others returned from a meeting with the Iraqi dictator with the same kind of ecstatic, mindless assurances of his intelligence, toughness, integrity and grasp of his country's need for peace and cooperation with the West.

Now even the Israeli leadership seems willing to forget Assad's unmatched brutality: the massacre of 20,000 civilians in Hama in 1982, the massacres of countless Christians and Palestinians in Lebanon, the assassinations of Lebanese leaders, the bombing of the marine compound in Beirut which killed 250 Americans and which the CIA has blamed on Assad's intelligence services, and other enormities. And even among the more realistic Israeli politicians there is a stubborn belief that Assad keeps his word, that he will honor an agreement.

This, too, is a myth. Assad has no more respect for contracts than Yasser Arafat does, though he does not hark back to Mohammed to excuse breaking them. He broke his word to the Saudis and the Reagan administration to respect the May 1983 Israel-Lebanon agreement. He has discarded the inter-Arab Taif agreement which stipulated the departure of the Syrian army from Lebanon by September of last year, and he has broken every promise to grant independence to the Beirut government. That he also continues to use the Hizbullah as a proxy army and support the 10 "rejectionist" terrorist organizations, and that the Syrian army runs one of the biggest drug operations in the world serve to complete the picture. The image of Assad some of Christopher's associates promote has little to do with reality.

Blatant antisemitic articles in Assad's newspapers (an editorial in *Al Ba'ath* recently described *Schindler's List* as an attempt to deflect attention from "Israeli aggression") may prove useful if they sound an alarm in the minds of those who prod Israel to sacrifice the Golan for "peace" with the Damascus regime.



## 'Ayatollah' for Russia

OLEG SAVELZON

IN his famous *Escape from Freedom*, Erich Fromm concludes that a considerable part of Western society feels uncomfortable in situations where a choice must be made from among a large number of alternatives. People, Fromm says, strive to limit their choices artificially, thereby "escaping from freedom."

For Fromm, the ability to make decisions is one of the major human values. Apparently, the more refined a society's decision-making, the more fruitful the functioning of its democracy and market economy.

This idea has never been characteristic of Russian and Soviet culture. It is clear why: there was simply no source in Russia from which to derive it. The Russian philosopher Fedotov showed that Russia has always lived in "slavery" (under rulers' despotism), only occasionally interrupted by short periods of license.

Freedom for Fedotov is political, first and foremost. But it is also partly everyday freedom — something ordinary Russian people have never had. Fedotov's "slavery" can be understood in Fromm's sense as a total absence of freedom of choice. Russians had one ideology, one party, one candidate in elections. There was a very thorough regulation of industrial plans, and passport registration that tied people to a certain place of residence. Graduating students were assigned to specific places of work, and so on.

Political, economic, spiritual and, indeed, everyday decisions constantly made by people in the West were made in the USSR by the system. For many, ironically, this provided great psychological comfort.

One theory like Fromm's can offer an explanation for why "slavery" is preferable to freedom.

It is my feeling that the only figure who might be welcomed in the role of "master" in Russia today is Alexander Solzhenitsyn, who is on his way back to resume life in his homeland, after almost 20 years in exile.

Obviously, Solzhenitsyn would not be participating in a conventional political struggle. He wouldn't be creating a new party, leading an already existing one or standing for president.

He could, however, rise as a spiritual leader of the nation, as a sort of ayatollah. The establishing of "ayatollahism" in Russia seems quite possible within the existing constitutional system. For it to happen, the people need only vote for the candidates pointed out by Solzhenitsyn. They will "organize Russia" in accordance with his directions.

After the end of the first stage of ayatollahism, the personality of the ayatollah and his ideas would be canonized together with religious orthodoxy. The concept of community, "the people," in order to make up an ideological basis for the new "slavery." To my mind, only within such a social arrangement can Russia remain Russia.

There is every reason for Russians to believe that Solzhenitsyn's move to Russia gives hope not so much for the better, but rather for prevention of the worse.

The writer, associated with the Louis Guttman Israel Institute of Applied Social Research, is investigating the manifestations of Soviet-style decision-making in the life of immigrants from the ex-USSR.

ELLIOTT A. GREEN

Eusebius and other ancient sources tell us that the colonists planted throughout the forbidden zone by the Romans were mainly Syrians and Arabs. Some settlers were European veterans of the Roman legions.

This was the historical core of it seems absurd to keep refuting the Holocaust deniers while ignoring the historical lies of the Arabs and their sympathizers

the non-Jewish population in the heart of Judea, which over the years grew as a result of invasions, migrations, pilgrimage and the slave trade, and diminished because of recurrent war, disease, emigration and massacre.

This makes Hanan Ashrawi's claim to be descended from the first Christians laughable. The group of Jews that believed Jesus to be the messiah were expelled with other Jews, as Eusebius makes clear.

ARAB SPOKESMEN sometimes try to get around inconvenient historical facts by appealing to relativism. You have the Bible, they say — but we have the Koran and our own historians.

The fact is that the Koran agrees with the Bible that God (Allah) made a covenant with the Sons of Israel and assigned the Holy Land to the Jews (see Koran, Sura V, "The Table"). The Koran also describes the land given to the Jews as "blessed" and foresees a return of Israel to

## Gender equality

MIKE SWEENEY

NOW that Paula Jones has filed her lawsuit accusing Bill Clinton of sexual harassment, America is tossing the word "bimbo" around once again; using it to describe Jones in a pejorative way, usually in defense of the president.

Jones contends that when Clinton was Arkansas governor and she was on the state payroll, she was brought to meet him in a hotel room, where he dropped his pants and propositioned her. Jones said she refused and left. But that hasn't kept people from referring to her as a bimbo — though some people who say they knew her as a "party girl" might think the term apt.

For America, a country accused more and more of embracing attitudes that are politically correct, this kind of linguistic behavior strikes me as a serious lapse. It seems that the nation has come to accept the term "bimbo" without considering its connotations.

Perhaps it would be best to define exactly what a bimbo is. Webster's New World Dictionary lists three slang definitions, of which the third is most pertinent to current usage: "a sexually promiscuous woman."

The second definition — "a silly

Are there male bimbos? Answer: no

or stupid person: used especially of a woman" — often seems implicit when people speak of bimbos, too.

Nowadays, I can't think of anyone who uses the first definition, deemed old-fashioned in the dictionary: "a guy, fellow." In fact, the whole notion of a bimbo seems quite gender-specific. There seems to be no male equivalent.

Sure, men have been called bimbos — but that term seems pretty passive compared to what we mean when we refer to a woman as a bimbo.

Then there's the term "stud," which certainly carries a sexual connotation. Yet it isn't the same kind of pejorative as bimbo. I can't imagine any women considering bimbo a positive description, but there are plenty of men who would welcome being called a stud.

And we'd better forget "womanizer," which has such an elite connotation to it, you can almost picture someone in a pin-striped suit and wing tips. Think of it this way: JFK was a womanizer; Judith Exner was a bimbo. Note the difference.

ALL OF which makes me wonder exactly how far we have come toward gender equality.

The word bimbo reinforces the stereotype of a woman using sexuality to promote herself. That there is no equivalent male term is significant, but not as important as the fact that we seem willing to use the word bimbo unquestioningly.

Women use it, too, including some women who pride themselves on promoting feminist equality. That is perhaps the ultimate irony, for it pretty effectively undercuts the notion of women being held to the same standards as men, and vice versa.

Some of the newer feminist writers surely would criticize the notion of women ever being bimbos. Among this group, dubbed the "do-me feminists" by *Esquire* magazine, are those who believe women finally are acting sexually demanding in much the same way men traditionally have. They would find the notion of sexual promiscuity behavior just fine, without any of the negative connotations that the word bimbo would conjure up.

But society seems ill at ease with the idea of a woman who leers at men, dresses to enhance her sexuality or even enjoys the pleasures of the flesh. Hence the continued use of the word bimbo in a way that can only be considered demeaning, not only to the woman so labeled, but to women in general.

Thinking about it that way, we can be certain the double standard is alive and well, despite all the efforts by women — and men — to try to level the playing field for both genders.

What is perhaps surprising, however, is the rancor Jones has stirred through her lawsuit. People across a broad spectrum have come to Clinton's defense. Even Gennifer Flowers, who claims to have had a longtime affair with Clinton, says Jones' story doesn't ring true.

Based on that, Jones might be the only person I can think of who could be accused of giving bimbos a bad name.

The writer is editorial page editor of *The Greenwich Time*. (Washington Post)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### "DIASPORRHEA"

Sir, — We constantly hear from those on the far right that any public expressions of conscience by Jews in relation to events in Israel are really abhorrent pandering to non-Jews. This, as Moshe Kohn informs us in his column of May 6, constitutes "diasporrhea." Kohn is in favor of stamping out this diseased Diaspora mentality, presumably so that we make no wish without fear of other people's opinions or our own consciences.

On the contrary, I would suggest that it is Kohn and is like who suffer from a Diaspormentality. On the one hand, they are paranoid about the dangers facing the Jewish people, and on the other, they are intoxicated by the power we wield as an independent people in our own strong nation-state. At one and the same time, we are so weak we aren't given one square centimeter under our control, and so strong we can rule over hundreds of thousands of hostile people indefinitely, ignoring both their demands and the overwhelming weight of world opinion.

Those who hold such a distorted world view have shown themselves

utterly incapable of adjusting to the true dangers and possibilities of being "a free people in our own land." I submit that it is they and not the left who have refused to leave the darkness of the ghetto for the sunlight of Eretz Yisrael.

MARTIN J. GORVINE

Ramat Gan.

Moshe Kohn comments:

Contrary to what Martin Gorvine writes, I praised public expressions of conscience by Jews who have a standing in relation to the events over which they are conscience-stricken. I cannot think of any reason for the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel, that rabbi in Teaneck, New Jersey, or the editor/publisher of *Moment* magazine to have taken "official" public stands on the atrocity committed by Baruch Goldstein in Hebron other than to show that they are not American Jews like him — a true symptom of diasporrhea. So was Prime Minister Rabin's fulsome expression of being ashamed to be a Jew and an Israeli; a simple apology and heartfelt expression of condolence would have sufficed.

and to the global, her essay, like the *ala arafa*, ought to raise consciousness and red flags in the heart and minds of our brethren in the divided galut.

Modern American Orthodoxy has struggled to define itself ever since inception as more than just a faith, a life-style. And it still does. It suffers from a lack of purpose as well as a complete lack of inspired leadership. Everyone I know (with Orthodoxy) who left America's shores for this country, knows this. Moreover most American pulp raps are loath to take moral stands because it interferes with their ideal of being everyone's friend.

I live in Israel today because I could no longer and the hypocrisy of these types communities. I live in Israel all because here "real issues" which relate to one's survival and the Jewish people's survival, are more important than which *daf yomi* class to catch, or which designer dress to wear to shul.

Elkana. ALEXANDRA STEIN

### FESTIVAL OPENING

Sir, — We would like to register our protest at the disgusting display of narcissistic and racist abuse which was promoted as "art" and as "entertainment" (and expensive entertainment at that) at the opening event of the Israel Festival.

"Morocco Trance-Art" was neither art nor entertainment. It was an obscene prostituting of an indigenous culture's spiritual practice by an "artist" of a more "civilized" culture, as other members of that "civilized" culture look on. The audience clapping as the painter sadistically threw cups of paint into the faced of drugged darker-skinned dancers, feeding upon the energy of their wild gyrations, was a decadent spectacle, reminiscent of the Roman forum. Has our civilization really sunk so low?

The "artist" should have been arrested for his role. And as for us, we feel duped by a totally misleading description of this event in the Festival catalog. We would like an apology for being subjected to this degrading garbage and resent having been tricked into financing it. We want our money back!

SHARON ALEXANDER

DREYFUS

ROGER DREYFUS

Jerusalem.

### NATIONAL SUICIDE

Sir, — In Jewish tradition, there is hardly a sin more serious or condemnable than suicide, which both wipes out a human life and negates God's desire for people to act in a positive, creative fashion.

If an individual suicide is so reprehensible, what can we say about national, collective suicide, whereby a whole nation willingly prepares the path for its own destruction? Releasing terrorists from jail, giving them deadly weapons, power and authority, refusing to hear — let alone believe — their calls for holy war against Jews and Israel, is nothing short of taking our own national life and destroying with our own hands the state we struggled mightily to build.

RABBI STEWART WEISS

Ra'anana.



## Questioning Technology:

Frank Beacham

### Computing Triggers Sweeping Change

Just as the eye of a hurricane believes the power and fury around it, enchantment with personal computing can distract from comprehending the explosive impact the technology is having on our daily lives.

A bit of history brings the point home. Over the past 20 years there's been a factor of one million in the price/performance ratio of computing, said Dr. Nathan P. Myhrvold, senior vice president of advanced technology at Microsoft Corp. That means, he said, today's \$5,000 personal computer is one million times more powerful than a computer costing the same amount 20 years ago.

Looking into the future, Dr. Myhrvold predicts the same thing will happen again in the next 20 years and quite likely will happen again in the 20 years after that.

"To put that in perspective," he said, "a factor of a million means twenty years from now a computer will accomplish in 30 seconds what a computer today can accomplish in a year. Forty years from now that computer will accomplish in 30 seconds what today's computer would require a million years to do."

As an example of this swift change, Dr. Myhrvold cites the American Airlines Sabre database for airline reservations, which he said consists of 14 IBM mainframes costing about \$100 million to build. If you duplicated it this year it

would take about 10 fast PCs and a bunch of disks costing about \$850,000," he said. "By the year 2000, the entire (Sabre) system will fit on a single PC."

At no time in recorded history has a society undergone such rapid and profound technological change in so little time. This unrelenting growth of computing power is altering every aspect of our daily lives, including the way we work, play and communicate. It is impacting government, education, health care and the environment and already re-defining such concepts as privacy, civil rights, security and freedom.

It's not surprising that Dr. Myhrvold, a top executive in America's most prominent software corporation, sees in all of this a bright future with "a rich (computing) environment" of new innovation and creativity.

"At some point in the future a kid's Etch-a-Sketch is going to have the same power as the machines used to make the movie Jurassic Park," said Dr. Myhrvold. "It may be seven or 15 years, but all this stuff that's now only in the hands of Steven Spielberg is going to be accessible to seven-year-olds. I see them making the multimedia equivalent of the clay ashtray for Grandma."

But what about the downside of the computing revolution? As a society, how will tradition and culture withstand the rapid pounding of continued change? As indi-

viduals, what personal price are we paying for this booming technology? Who are the winners and losers of the computer revolution?

Large scale organizations like governments, banks, airline companies and tax collecting institutions are the real beneficiaries of computing, said Neil Postman, an author and New York University professor who has dedicated his career to studying the effects of technology on culture.

To the average citizen, Postman contends, the computer has contributed little real benefit yet it has stripped away personal privacy and reduced individuals to numerical objects in an increasingly impersonal society.

Even so, said Postman, the winners who benefit from computers encourage the losers to be enthusiastic about computer technology. Representatives of multinational corporations and government continue to promise that computers will bring a richer life. "They tell (average citizens) their lives will be conducted more efficiently and discreetly while neglecting to say from whose point of view or what might be the cost of such efficiency," he said.

In assessing the impact of all new technologies, Postman reminds there is no free lunch. Culture always pays a price for technology, he said. For every advantage a new technology offers, there's always a corresponding disadvantage. All

technological change is a Faustian bargain, he contends.

The question "What will a new technology do?" is no more important than the question "What will a new technology undo?" Indeed this latter question is probably more important precisely because it is asked so infrequently," said Postman.

"One might say then that those with a mature perspective on technology are people who are capable of doing some technological cost accounting," Postman continued. "People who know that technology gives and technology takes away. People who are at all times skeptical of the utopian vision drawn by those who have no sense of history or of the precarious balance on which culture depends."

Postman suggests a few questions that we should ask of those who speak enthusiastically of the computer: Why are you advocating computers? What interests do you represent? To whom are you hoping to give power and freedom? From whom will you be withholding power and freedom?

Unfortunately, on questions of new technology, Americans can't vote on whether or not to accept it. Computers are being imposed on us whether we like it or not. However, it would serve us well to start asking some hard questions about the effect these machines are having on our lives. Only then can we begin to understand the tradeoffs we are making.

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## FEIFFER®

THE 1990'S:  
A POST-COMMUNIST  
HISTORY:



THE COLLAPSE OF  
EASTERN EUROPE—  
THE COLLAPSE  
OF THE  
SOVIET UNION—



THE DEATH OF SOCIALISM—  
THE TRIUMPH OF DEMOCRACY—  
THE TRIUMPH OF CAPITALISM—



THE EMERGENCE OF  
NATIONALISM—  
THE EMERGENCE  
OF ETHNO-  
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THE EMERGENCE  
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OF CAPITALISM—



THE TRIUMPH OF  
RELIGIOUS  
FUNDAMENTALISM—  
THE COLLAPSE  
OF RELIGIOUS  
FUNDAMENTALISM—



THE TRIUMPH  
OF CHAOS—



THE EMERGENCE  
OF SOCIALISM—



Robert Novak

## The Haitian Resistance

Port-au-Prince, Haiti - A reporting trip to this stricken country reveals two developments since my last visit here two and one-half months ago that contradict premises of the new U.S. get-tough policy pressed by President Clinton.

First, determination not to accept the return of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide is stronger than ever in the armed forces and the business community. The reality of tougher sanctions now and the threat of U.S. military action later has stiffened rather than diminished anti-Aristide sentiment. That is reflected by Parliament's election Tuesday of a new provisional president.

Second, a strategy has been devised by the military high command for what to do if Clinton sends in the Marines: passive resistance — of a sort. U.S. troops would encounter far less military opposition than in Grenada or Panama but could face a vastly longer, bloodier occupation. These developments were virtually confirmed to me by Lt. General Raoul Cedras, commander in chief of the armed forces, in an interview for CNN. He

suggested that the military has broad national backing in excluding Aristide, and as for U.S. intervention, he warned: "The defense of a country does not only come from its armed forces. The American troops will have in front of them people who have already lived the experience (during the 1925-34 American occupation here)."

Worse news for Clinton's game plan is the ever closer relationship to Cedras of businessmen who had been counted on by U.S. policy-makers to be so pained by sanctions that they would force Cedras out and permit Aristide in. Indeed, a group of key businessmen I visited at the end of February, while strongly anti-Aristide, made clear then they thought the general had to go.

But their tone was markedly different this week in the wake of the harder U.S. line. They were less conciliatory, angrier, more anti-American and much more in tune with the military. These pillars of old Haitian families spent four hours recently with Cedras and came away convinced that any successor would be less moderate and much worse for the country.

At that meeting, Cedras discussed the passive-resistance strategy, described to me by one of the industrialists present: "When the Americans come, members of the army and police will go home, take off their uniforms and put them in the closet. People in the streets can run wild. The looting will be like you had in Los Angeles. Can you imagine your Marines shooting down our civilians? Forcing out Cedras becomes even more difficult now that new sanctions have raised the ante. Not only must Cedras leave, but he must be accompanied by Brig. General Philippe Blamby, army chief of staff, and Col. Michel Francois, Port-au-Prince chief of police. That enhances the military's solidarity."

The rationale for Clinton's tougher stance demanded by the Congressional Black Caucus must be more than an abstraction of saving democracy. Sanctions and even military intervention would have to be based on rescuing Haiti from a human rights disaster when the Haitian army kills innocent civilians by the thousands. Actually, the military and police presence here seems exceptionally low, as I ob-

served Sunday and Monday while spending 31 straight hours in a four-wheel vehicle traveling through the Haitian back country reporting for a Reader's Digest article. Everywhere, I asked politically neutral people about official violence.

A hospital administrator in Gonaives told me of one incident where people hauling charcoal were caught in a cross fire between the army and armed Aristide followers. "But there were no other such accounts."

In Port-de-Paix, Father Andre Blossis, who came here from France 31 years ago, said he knew of no army violence against civilians. In the village of La Coma, Wilhemina Castalesme, an evangelical missionary who came here from the Netherlands 16 years ago, said the last political violence was initiated by left-wing insurgents seven years ago.

That suggests, Senator Robert Dole's proposal for a bipartisan fact-finding commission has merit, if only to pose this question: Is there real justification for U.S.-sponsored agony imposed on this poor nation?

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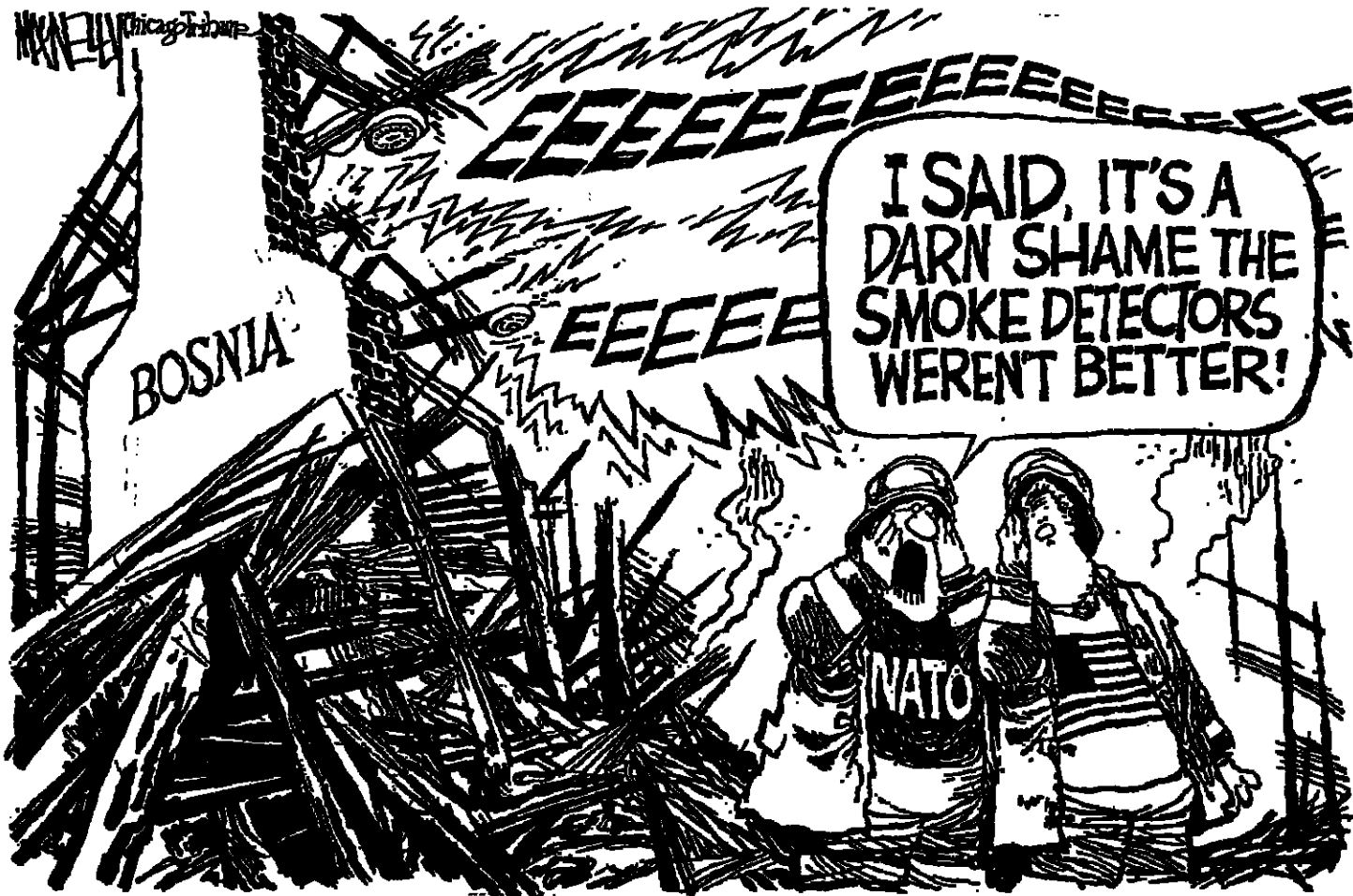
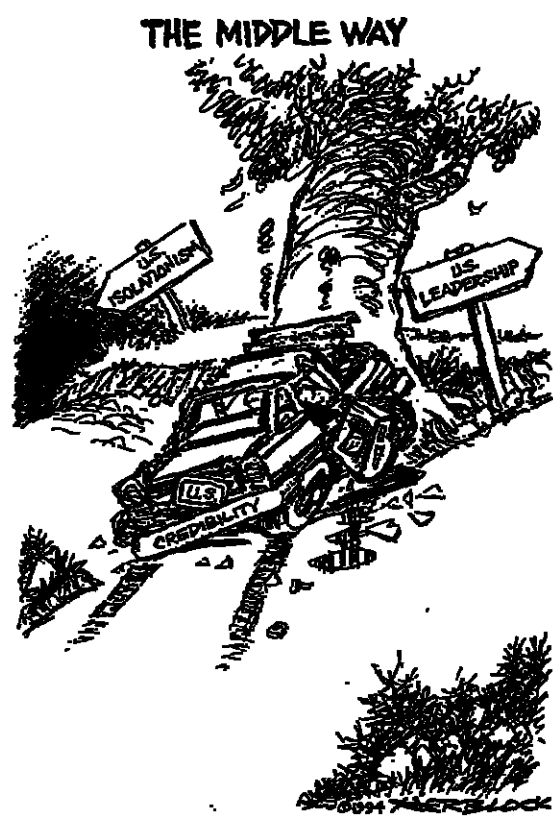
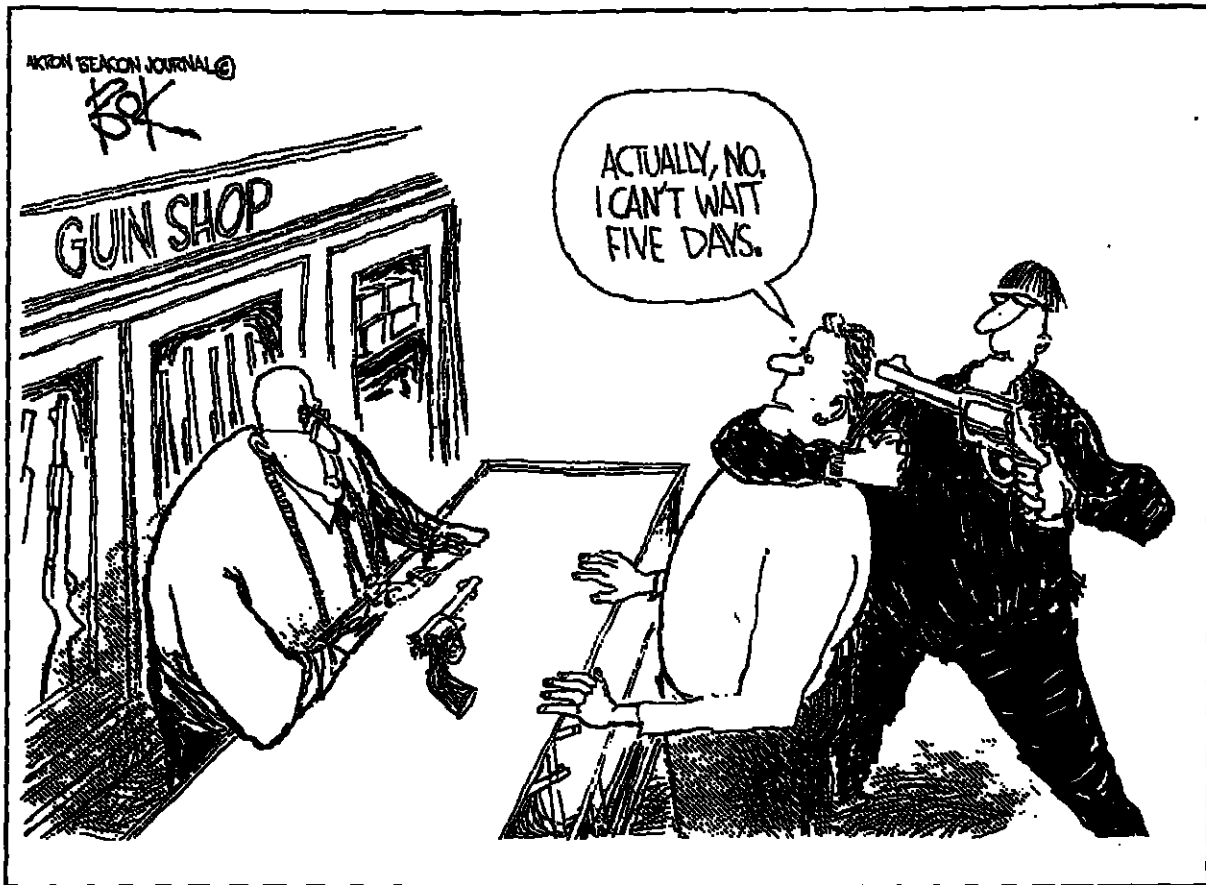


PERSPECTIVE

Editor  
Guy Bernfeld

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# EDITORIAL CARTOONS



L.A. Kauffman

## Detour America: No Joke

Dan Quayle, the man we've all loved to mock, is struggling to make a comeback. The very idea can seem implausible to the point of being comical, and indeed the former vice president's success has been less than brilliant so far. Cameras caught him at the Nixon funeral sitting boyishly alone amid a sea of empty chairs, an image that many took as a metaphor for Quayle's political standing. Meanwhile, the centerpiece of his campaign for redemption — a new memoir with the wishful and penile title *Standing Firm* — has been widely (and accurately)

pleasures. A 1974 snapshot of a ruffled Dan bears a startling resemblance to the late Kurt Cobain; a photo of the vice presidential couple en route to the inaugural balls, described as Marilyn's favorite, renders her, in a poufy purple gown, a dead ringer for Barney the Dinosaur.

It quickly becomes clear that the book's title is less a description of Quayle's vice presidential demeanor than a statement of his future intentions. While he labors in the memoir to rescue his reputation, he unwittingly offers a flaccid portrayal of his past

fervor of the Reagan years, longed for a candidate who would take a stronger ideological stand on domestic issues. And while Quayle's Murphy Brown speech and Pat Robertson's Republican Convention speech both backfired out of mean-spiritedness, the family values message — if proffered more skillfully — is one that indisputably resonates in an American heartland made anxious (and even vicious) by everything from economics to crime to gay and lesbian activism.

Hard as it may be to believe, Dan Quayle does have



panned as a tedious whinefest.

To read the book — a perverse thing to do, I admit — is to learn many things you really didn't want to know. In between excoriating the press, which he does at every turn, and blaming everyone besides himself and Bush for their 1992 defeat, Quayle makes the kind of cute personal revelations that are standard fare in this literary genre. We find young Dan romancing young Marilyn in that most heartwarming of settings — they are preparing a death-penalty brief. In what can only be a subconscious effort to bolster his Puritan credentials, we encounter frequent allusions to Quayle's personal hygiene habits: Dan reveals that he gets his teeth cleaned every Election Day, and recounts that he learned of Bush's fateful decision to break his "no new taxes" pledge while standing in the shower (a scenario upon which one shouldn't allow the mind to linger). And inevitably, we're treated to eight pages of "candid" full-color photos of the erstwhile Second Family. These bring unexpected

political integrity. As Quayle tells it, he took a principled stand against everything that led to Bush's downfall — the broken promises on taxes, the lack of a focused ideological message in the 1992 campaign, the various inept moves by Bush's campaign managers — but always, and only, in private. In public, Quayle played the Good Soldier, the loyal lieutenant, which is what vice presidents are supposed to do: "Anyone who thinks cheerleading for a policy you don't believe in amounts to hypocrisy," he explains, "doesn't really understand the way government has to work." But even in meetings with administration officials, he did little — by his own account — to dissuade them from what he now says were fatal mistakes.

What makes *Standing Firm* more than the tiresome lament of a loser, though, is the surprising perceptiveness of Quayle's political analysis. Granted, Quayle has the benefit of hindsight now, but he's right that Bush alienated his strongest base by backtracking on taxes. He's right to say that hardcore conservatives, nostalgic for the right-wing

a political base, and a considerable one at that. He fills an ideological vacuum in the Republican Party left by the collapse of communism. He speaks to the moral sanctimony of the well-organized fundamentalist right, but is less threatening to more moderate Republicans than someone like Robertson. And his message — "law and order and family values" — will only grow in appeal to a certain segment of the American populace as Clinton continues his program of governance-by-waffling.

Quayle is very likely to run for president in 1996. Thankfully, it's very difficult to imagine him winning the Republican nomination, much less the election, but he could very well position himself as an effective power broker within the Republican Party, pushing its program to the right and helping it to recapture the loyalty of its disaffected ultra-conservative wing. Stupidity is no barrier to success when festering resentments are the currency of politics. Laugh at Dan Quayle — but watch out lest the laughter become bitter.

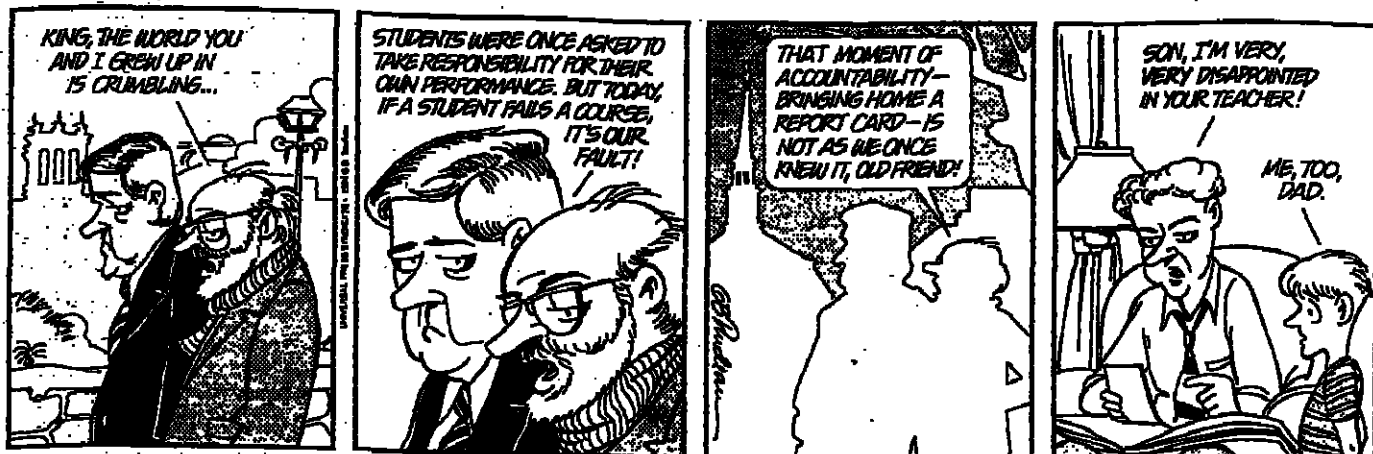
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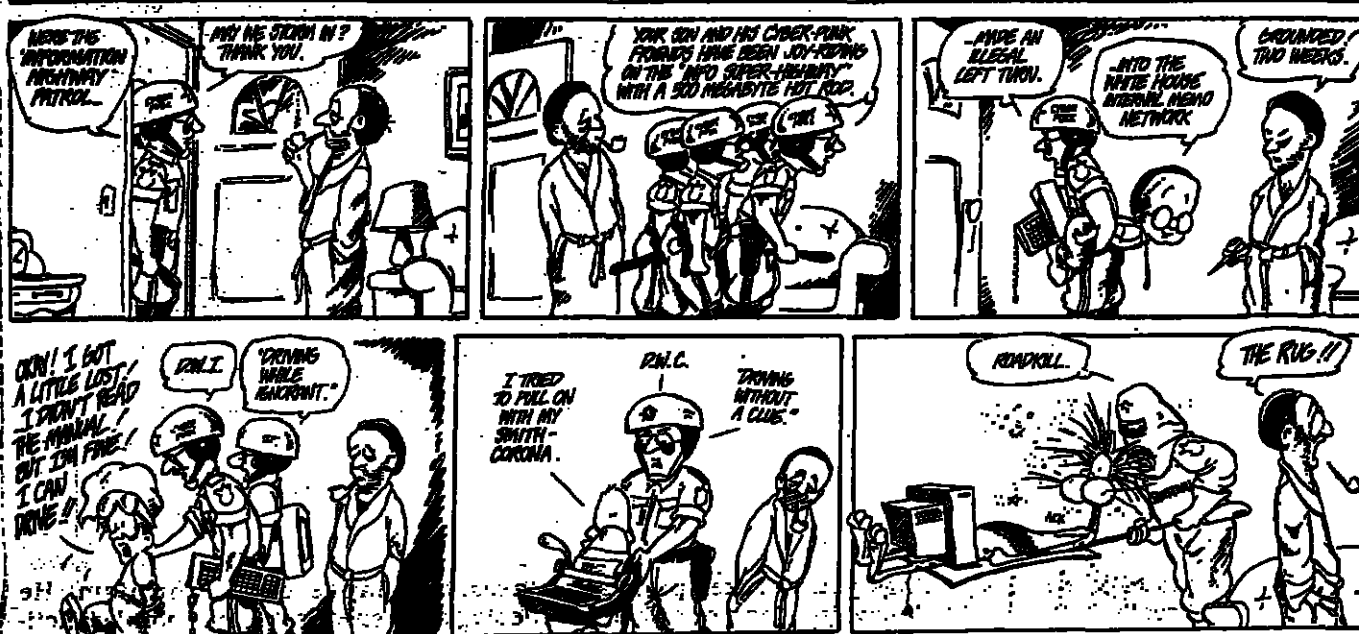
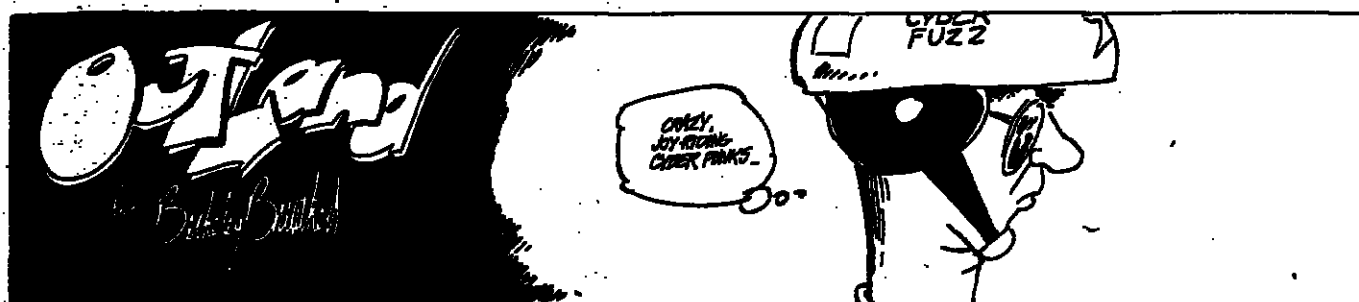
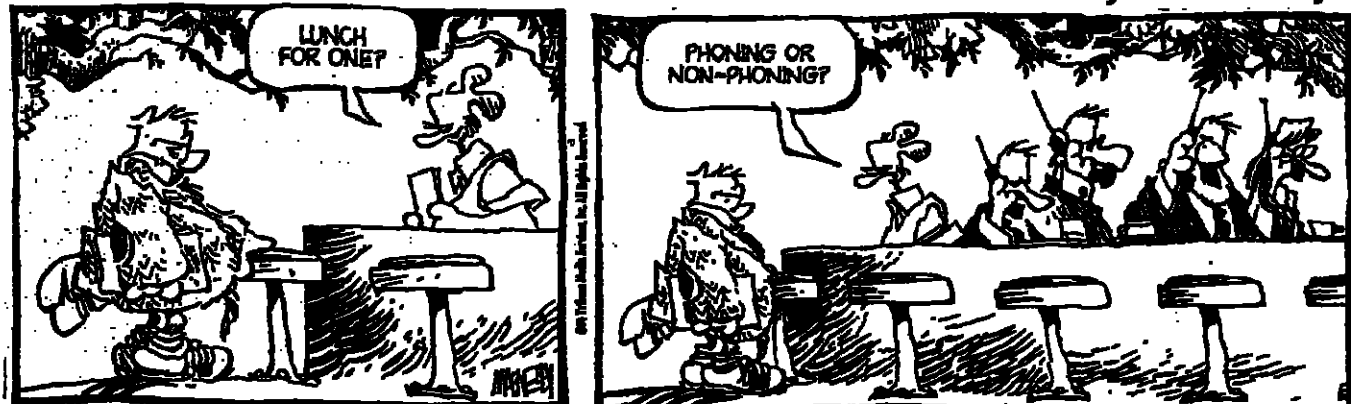
# Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



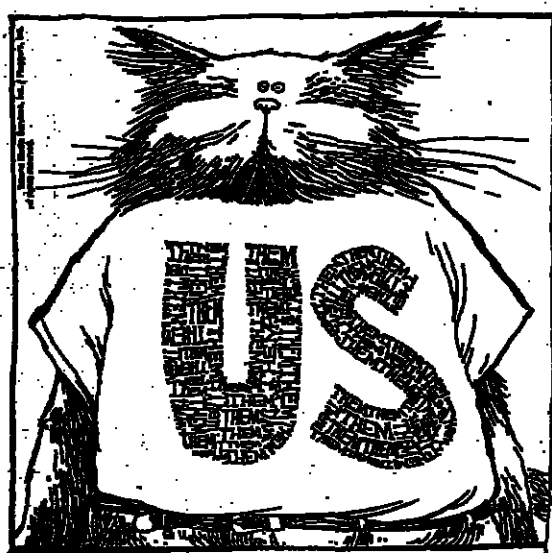
# SHOE

**by Jeff MacNelly**



## Pluggers

by Jeff MacNelly



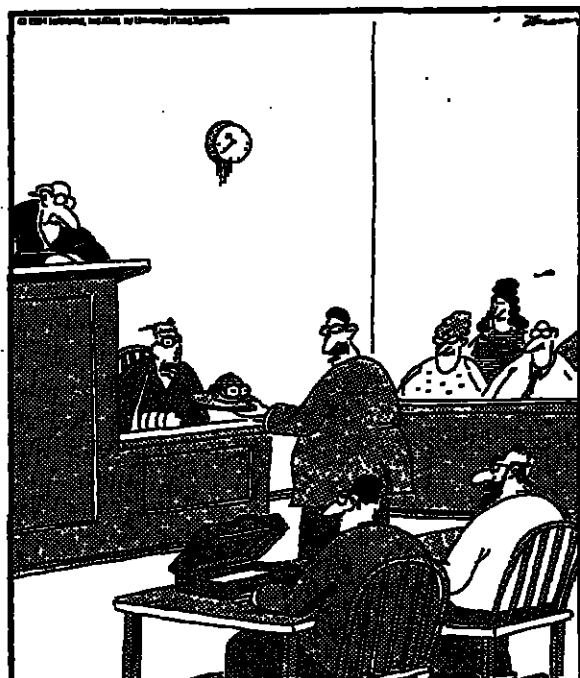
Pluggers see no difference between "them" and "us."



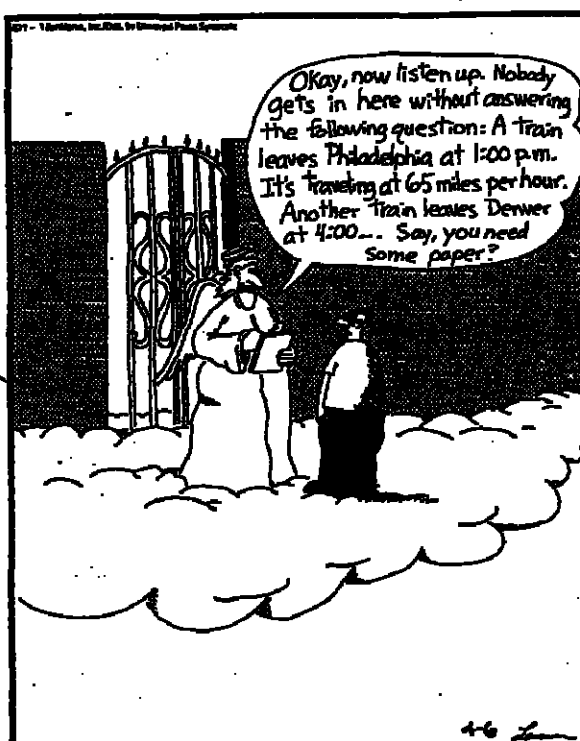
We pluggers know how to lower the boom.

## THE FAR SIDE

by GARY LARSON



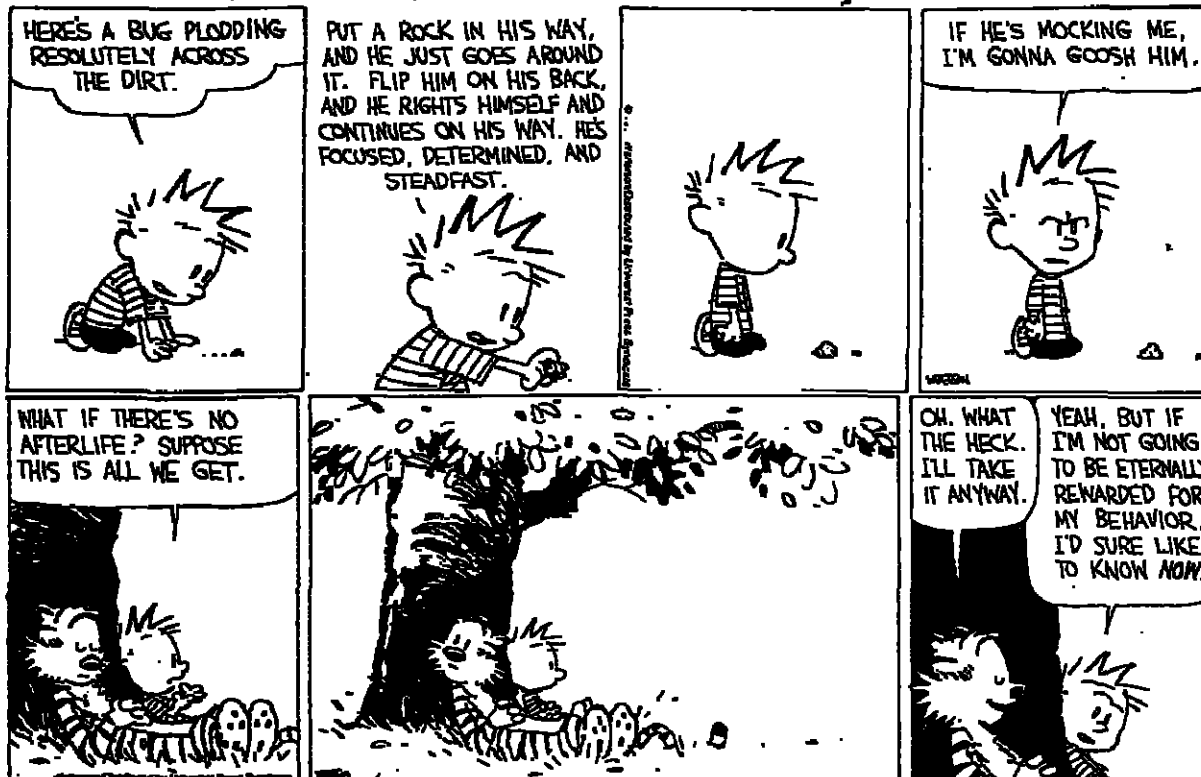
**"So, Professor Sadowsky, you're saying that your fellow researcher, Professor Lazzell, knowing full well that baboons consider eye contact to be threatening, handed you this hat on that fateful day you emerged from your Serengeti campsite."**



### Math phobic's nightmare

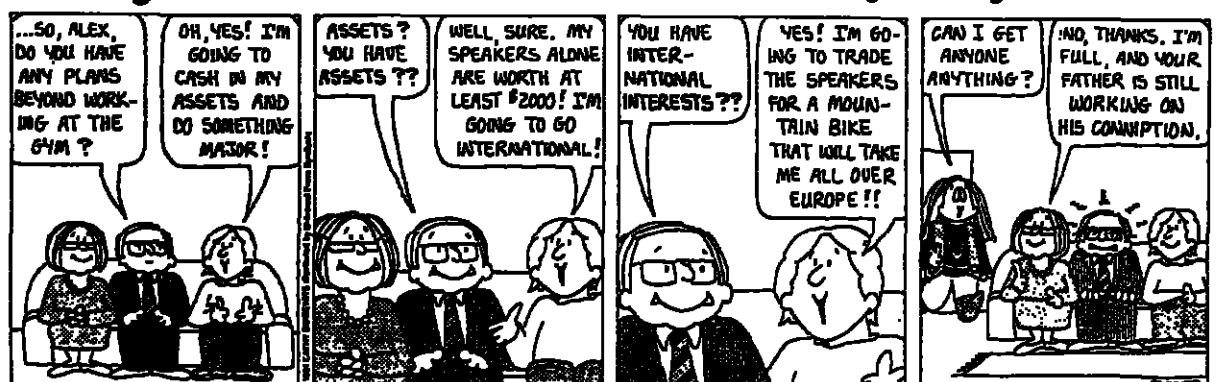
## Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



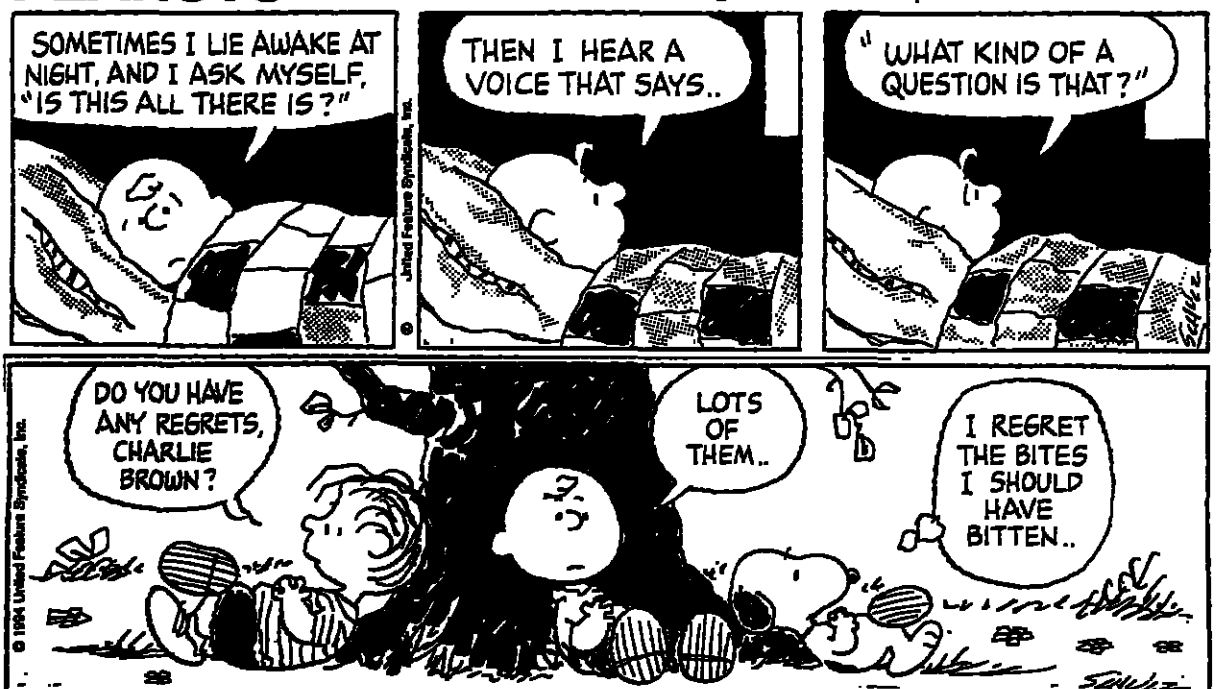
**cathy**

by Cathy Guisewite



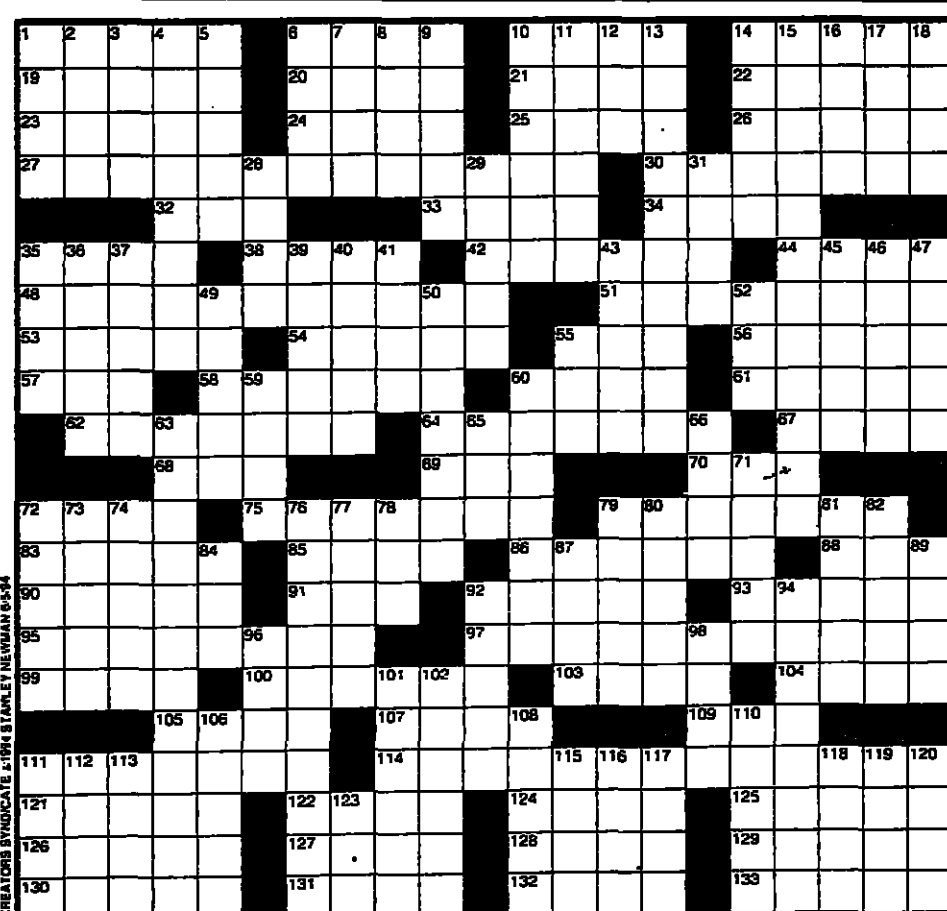
# PEANUTS

**by Charles M. Schulz**



## THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman  
**ON YOUR FEET: Everything but the socks**  
by Shirley Soloway



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**DEATH, LIVE:** "This is just the kind of break we needed for our ratings." — Chicago Fox News anchorman Walter Jacobsen, thrilled to discover that his station had been granted permission to witness the execution of serial killer John Wayne Gacy.



Alan Dershowitz

## Jones vs. Clinton: Hill vs. Thomas redux?

The lawsuit being brought by Paula Corbin against President Clinton poses problems not only for our beleaguered chief executive, but is also raises an embarrassing risk of inconsistency — and indeed hypocrisy — for feminist supporters of Clinton who insisted on a full airing of Anita Hill's allegations against Clarence Thomas.

By any standard of judgment, Jones' charges against Clinton are far more serious, have far more prima facie corroboration and are far more consistent with other allegations against the alleged perpetrator than were Hill's charges against Thomas.

Finally, Hill's allegations against Clarence Thomas were inconsistent with Thomas' prior conduct and reputation. That cannot be said about Jones' allegations against Clinton.

It may well be that Jones made up the entire story, or at least the most salacious parts of it. But is also may well be that Hill made up some or all of her account. The point is that many feminists took the position that women who allege sexual harassment should be believed. Indeed, Anita Hill has been speaking at conferences entitled, "Women Tell the Truth." It certainly cannot be the position of the sponsors of these conferences that only liberal women who accuse conservative men tell the truth. When conservative women make allegations against liberal men, these allegations cannot be taken any more or less seriously.

No one can know for certain what took place behind the closed doors of that room in the Excelsior Hotel on May 8, 1991. There are inconsistencies in Jones' story, just as there were in Hill's. Jones and her supporters may have financial and political motivations, but so may Hill and her supporters. One fact is beyond dispute. Anita Hill has made a fortune off speaking and book fees solely on the basis of her accusation.

It is too early to make an informed judgment about

the credibility of the Jones allegations. But it is not too early to insist that these allegations must be treated no differently from "politically correct" allegations of sexual harassment made against "politically incorrect" defendants. Charges of sexual harassment are too serious to be allowed to be used selectively against only certain types of people.

President Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett, has gotten off to a bad start by questioning "whether a sitting president may be sued for alleged events that took place before he entered office." Of course, he can. No American is above the law. Just as Vice President Agnew could be, and indeed was, indicted for conduct that took place before he entered office, so too a sitting president is not above the law of sexual harassment and assault. By questioning whether his client can even be sued, Bennett conveys the impression that he is afraid of putting his client under oath. And perhaps he is.

But the president will almost certainly have to testify under oath — first by depositions and then in court — unless the suit is withdrawn or dismissed. Nor is it likely that a court will dismiss the complaint on legal grounds, since it appears to make out a cause of action and is being filed within the three-year statute of limitations. It is im-

portant to remember that this is merely a lawsuit brought by a single individual. It is not an indictment or a complaint filed by an agency. Like the suit brought against Cardinal Bernadin, it may prove baseless. Certainly President Clinton is entitled to the same presumption of innocence that protects anyone charged with sexual misconduct or any other misdeed.

But as the world awaits President Clinton's response, it also awaits the response of those feminists who did not accord Clarence Thomas any presumption of innocence and who — in other cases — adopt the knee-jerk attitude that "women tell the truth." Some do and some don't — as is true of every type of allegation. Paula Corbin, Jones' accusations should remind us how easy it is these days to level the thermodynamic charge of sexual harassment. Whichever way this case comes out, it should serve as an object lesson on why those accused of so heinous an offense as sexual harassment should not be presumed guilty just because some feminists believe that "women tell the truth."

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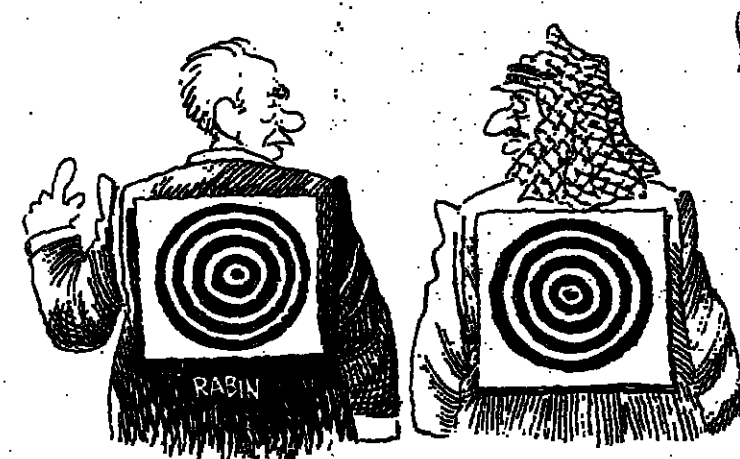
Martin Peretz

## We Still Can't Trust Arafat

The psychodrama of Palestinian nationalism continues. The most recent act was staged in the Gaza Strip and in Jericho two weeks ago, but it was an anti-climax. Actually, nothing happened, or not very much. It is still not quite clear how the locals will experience the autonomy regime. Months ago, when this first phase in the handing over of land was originally scheduled to take place, the PLO treated Israel's reluctance to let it happen without having all the reciprocal specifics in place as just another instance of colonial treachery. This time the Rabin government was a bit more lax (there will be Palestinian checkpoints on the borders, for example). Of course, the PLO took advantage of what its factotums took as a weakening of Jerusalem's resolve and made more and more symbolic demands, the adorn-

out negotiations these many months. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was there, and — very much in character — looked unperturbed. The Russian foreign minister, Andrei Kozyrev, was in Cairo, too, plumed to be there. Since Russia can't assure peace within its own borders, it is desperate still to be seen as a player, however far-fetched, in making peace within anyone else's. Finally, but not at all sheepishly, Arafat signed, doubtless thinking to himself that he had won a point with his ultras by making Yitzhak Rabin squirm for half an hour.

Making Rabin squirm actually seems to be all there is now of a Palestinian strategy. Nonetheless, for the moment, he seems to be unconditionally committed to letting the erratic dynamics of the agreement run their course. But he does



ments of sovereignty clearly being more enticing than concrete tasks for which they can be held accountable. Can Yasir Arafat really be bothered by whether sewage in Gaza City actually works? So, one of the demands to which much meaning was attached was that the new Palestinian police force be allowed to enter in full military formation the turf in which it was charged with keeping order. Israel said no. In the end, as it happens, Palestinian police weren't duly where to be found on the day they were expected. Then, two rag-tag bands numbering in the low hundreds assembled on the Jordanian and Egyptian frontiers and waited to ramble in, explaining that there weren't more of them because the foreign aid that was supposed to pay their salaries had not yet arrived. Other civilian authorities will also be a bit tardy. Since Arafat wants chaos in the "liberated" lands least of all, his men quietly asked the Israelis to stay and run the show for a few more weeks even though the PLO flag fluttered from every lamppost. Asking them to stay, however, did not keep the PLO from denouncing them for staying. In Gaza, some of those who stayed were stoned.

The cause of the delay seems to be Arafat's inability to decide who will sit in which seats of the mighty. Still, on everybody's testimony, including that of Arafat's longtime man in New York, Professor Edward Said, Arafat's choice is only a choice among his own cronies. These folk have been living a high-style rhetorical revolution for decades, and few of them will be able to adapt to the quotidian necessities of life in Jericho. What's more, they are also accustomed to the habits of command. Surely some Palestinians are not eager for such rulers. But such rulers they will have. Maybe Hamas will, here and there, extract some appointments on the ground for its loyalists, although no one counts this a plus for Arab pluralism. More prepared, in a rough way, for the job facing them are the 9,000 armed Palestinian police to which Israel has agreed for this phase of the autonomy. And, foreign aid or not, soon enough all of them will be on duty. Some of them were trained to suppress dissidents and oppositionists. Most of the new police have already served as pitiless enforcers of Palestinian submission to the will of Fatah, and it is this pitilessness in exile that commands them to the peace processors for a similar task at home. This is not a constabulary. This militia will also be equipped with armored carriers, helicopters, light weapons, machine guns and patrol boats. Who will guarantee that some of them will not carry shoulder missiles, and what happens if they do? Who, that is, will guard the guardians? Chairman Arafat (or, as he prefers to call himself, President Arafat) is very ambivalent about the agreement he signed in Washington on September 13, 1993. In Cairo two weeks ago for the second handshake and the second signing, he refused for some long minutes to put his name to the map of Jericho to which his representatives had agreed in the drawn-

not love this agreement unconditionally (he, unlike Shimon Peres, is not its parent), and almost everyone who knows this no-nonsense former general can envision some last straw that could turn him against it. If he turns, many others will turn with him, even many on the dovish left. Were this particular flank in Israeli politics to turn, it would do so with the bitterness of betrayed lovers. Indeed, many enthusiasts of the September 13 happening are already wondering why they were so cheery. The Palestinians would do well to weigh their provocations carefully; they could easily provoke too much. If they demonstrated at some especially urgent moment — something comparable, say, to the recent Arab atrocities in Afula and Ashdod — they might even provoke inadvertently the thought that, as Ze'ev Chafetz put it in The Jerusalem Report, there isn't "an authoritative, reasonable, decent Palestinian leadership to make peace with" after all.

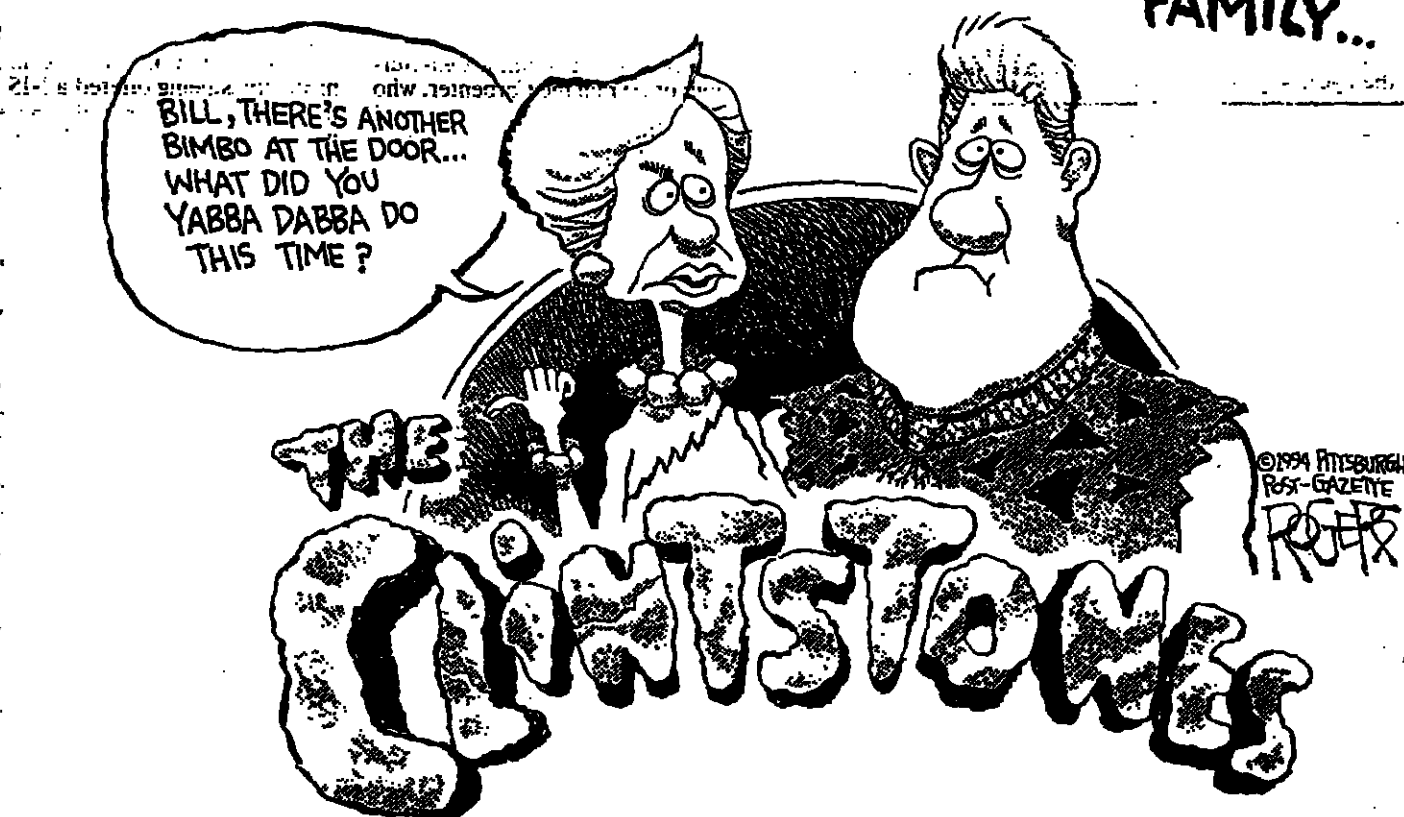
I doubt there is such a leadership, although I am eager to be proved wrong. I also doubt that economic aid can convert to febrile politics into a sensible politics. This conflict is not about bread or even about water or water resources; it is about land. A reasonable leadership would understand that it cannot win at the conference table all that is lost in a war, and in a war, at that, that the victor did not start. But no one is ready to assure that the PLO will forgo, or be able to forgo, the temptations of old maps. So, after Israel has made its last concession and after Arafat or his successors have signed off on this concession as, indeed, Israel's last, the PLO will yet be aggrieved, and the grievance will be put into the streets. The Arab claim to Jerusalem and to Safed and to dozens of other places, one after another, will not be stilled. If I am right about this, there will be ongoing terrorism and insurrection which, of course, will never end, we'll be told, without one more Israeli concession... and then another.

Martin Peretz is the editor-in-chief of The New Republic

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## MORE CRAZY ANTICS FROM AMERICA'S FAVORITE CARTOON FAMILY...



## Hackney Revisited

The Jefferson Lecture, held under the auspices of the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH), has always been regarded as an occasion for the discussion of scholarly work at the highest academic level. Speakers in recent years have included Lionel Trilling, Robert Penn Warren, Saul Bellow, Barbara Tuchman, Emily Vermeule, Sidney Hook, John Hope Franklin, Leszek Kolakowski, Walker Percy and Bernard Knox. Sometimes standards have slipped, but rarely have they fallen off a cliff. What follows are extracts from this year's lecture, by the poet Gwendolyn Brooks, the first lecture commissioned by NEH Chairman Sheldon Hackney. The entire document can be gotten from the NEH. We think it speaks for itself.

[T]he loud critics of teenaged unmarried mothers and of one-parent homes are not considering the amount of pain they are lavishing on innocent children who happen to be members of single-parent homes. Are

such keen and sly-tongued assessors aware of the permanent harm they are inflicting on these children — of the hot contribution they are making to loss of self-esteem?... Franklin Roosevelt experienced a single-parented home. Angela Lansbury experienced a single-parented home.... Pointing to a contemporary wit, I say what may startle: I am acquainted with many lovable Jews! Insofar as I know, not one Jew has marauded or personally minimized me. That is my story. Others must speak out of their own experience. I deplore blanket detestation of any group. See Fiddler on the Roof, ye who believe that liking Jews is impossible.... Farrakhan. We don't have tea. I have met the Avidly Assaulted One once. About a quarter-century ago, a woman poet, then a Muslim, brought him to meet my husband and myself. He was impressively relaxed. He brought no guards, no guns. We were impressed by his warm eyes, his kind pa-

tiency, flexible, dignity. He listened to every word we said. He waited for us to finish our sentences. He never interrupted. (Today, interruption is an art.) He did not feel the need to pastor. At least, he did not ask us to join anything.

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**Editor's Note:** Readers may remember Sheldon Hackney for his tenure as president of the University of Pennsylvania. In the last days of his term, he presided over disciplinary action in the well-publicized "water buffalo" case involving Jewish student Eden Jacobowitz. Jacobowitz was accused of calling a group of black sorority sisters making noise outside his dorm window "behemahs." He was brought before a Penn board of inquiry for "violation of the code of conduct and racial harassment policy." During this same period of time Hackney was involved in a furor over editorials written in the student newspaper,

the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, which voiced criticism of Martin Luther King and affirmative action. In that case also, the university judicial inquiry office notified the writer, student Gregory Pavlik, that he was under investigation for racial harassment. In a protest against Pavlik, a group of black students confiscated and destroyed the entire press run of the *Daily Pennsylvanian*. No disciplinary action was taken against them. When, in 1992, Louis Farrakhan was invited to Penn to speak, Hackney told a troubled university community: "We can't have free speech only some of the time, for only some people. Either we have it or we don't."

Recently, Sheldon Hackney assumed his position with the National Endowment of the Humanities, having been selected by President Bill Clinton and approved by a senate labor committee to head up the \$150 million fund. (ed.)



# Fabulous 50: A lens that trains the user

ON CAMERA

DAVID BRAUNER

WHEN I went to buy my first SLR camera, the thing that baffled me more than the make or model was which lens or lenses I should buy.

Never having looked through an SLR, I had no idea what the different lenses did. I only knew then, some 16 years ago, that the lens was as important as the camera body, if not more so.

All but the most ridiculously cheap lenses made of plastic begin with glass.

Glass, according to the Roman historian Pliny the Elder, was accidentally discovered by Phoenician sailors while cooking in the sand on a beach.

However, more scientific research concludes that the first man-made glass originated in Mesopotamia around 3000 BCE.

One of the properties of glass is that it refracts or "bends" light. Refraction occurs when light rays pass through one transparent medium like air to another like glass or water.

A spoon in a glass of water appears bent or displaced when seen from certain angles.

Modern lenses consist of several glass elements of superior quality expertly ground and coated against reflection and for color correction.

Mounted in "groups" of two or three in a metal or plastic barrel, the elements bend and concentrate light rays reflected off the object to reform the image on the film.

The lens barrel is equipped with two helical rings: one for focusing and one for setting the aperture.

Rotating the focusing ring moves some of the elements closer to or farther from the film to optically sharpen objects at different distances from the camera.

The focusing ring is calibrated in feet and meters. In a pinch, the quick photographer can estimate camera-to-object distance, set the focusing ring and grab the shot.

Reverse, one can focus on an object to determine its distance.

In the days before dedicated flashguns, knowing the distance was vital for setting a manually operated flash.

A tip: Taking a reading off a focused camera lens is also a quick and easy way for measuring the length and breadth of a room, for example.

The aperture ring controls a diaphragm of overlapping leaves, which opens and closes the lens. Apertures are floodgates for light.

Apertures click to "f" or focal stops, expressed f2, f2.8, f4 and so forth. You don't have to know the optical meaning of the numbers, but you need to remember that the smaller the f number, the larger the aperture and vice versa.

The number below a given number admits twice as much light, while the number above admits half the light.

So, taking our series above, the light let in by f2.8 is doubled by f2 and halved by f4. At first, it sounds confusing and technical, but the principle is quite simple and quickly learned.

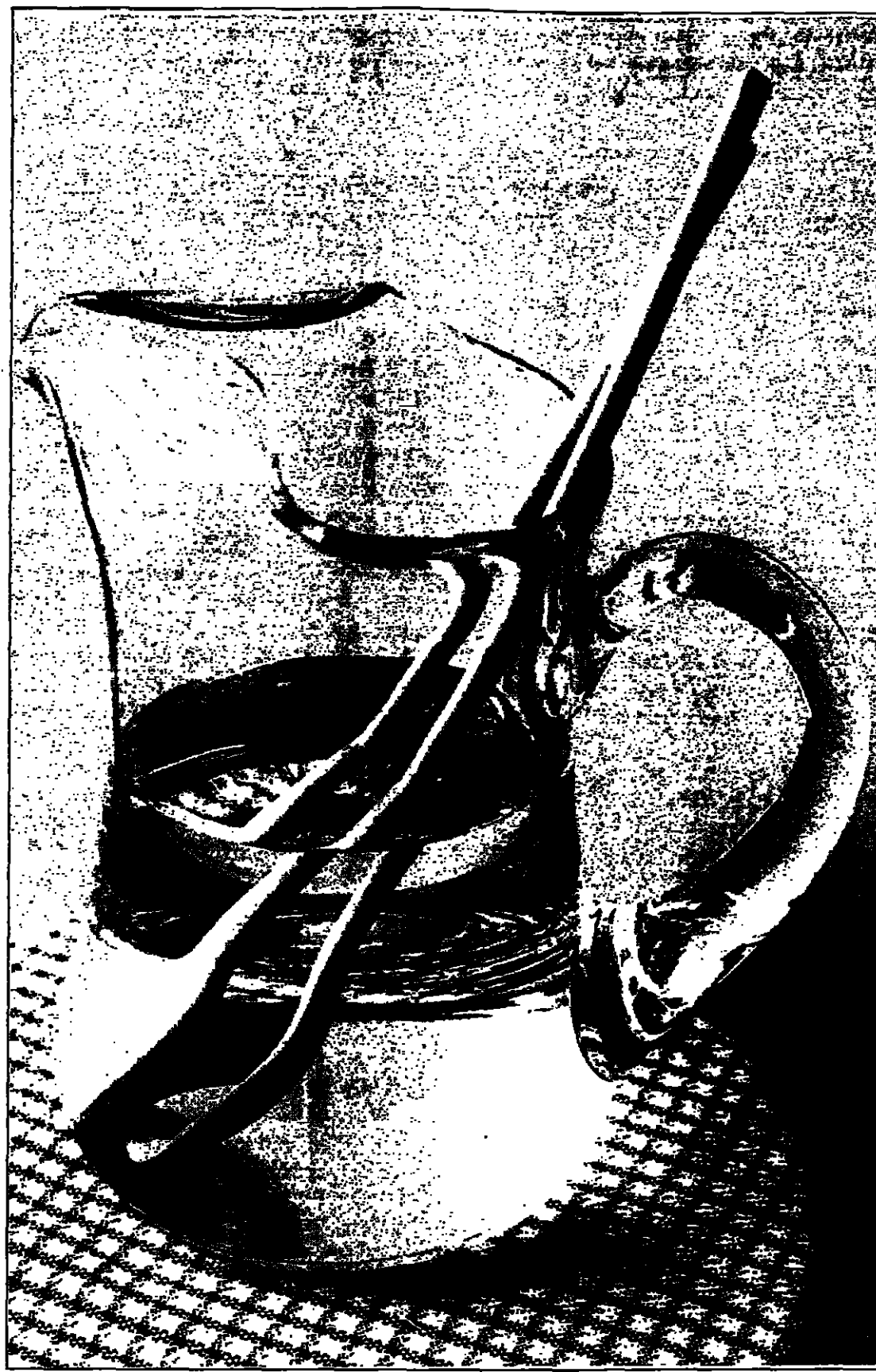
Lenses are designated in part by their maximum apertures. Thus an f2 optic is twice as "fast" as an f2.8 and is usually twice the price. Fast lenses are essential for photographers who like working with available light.

THE LENS'S focal length describes the magnification and angle of view. Roughly, the focal length is the distance from the lens to the film plane. But for the numbers to be meaningful it is best to think in relative terms.

Limiting ourselves to the popular 35mm film format, focal lengths are also measured in millimeters. The standard 50mm lens is designated "normal."

Magnification and distortion are all the 47-degree angle of view matches that of the human eye. The "50" is invariably the fastest lens generally available.

In a recent conversation, photo reporter Dr. Nahum Tim Gidal, a living legend with over 60 years' experience, praised the "fabulous 50." As with Henri Cartier-Bresson and Alfred Eisenstadt, the 50mm was Gidal's first choice for versatility and candidness. He rarely used any other lens.



One of the properties of glass is that it refracts or "bends" light. A spoon in a pitcher of water appears bent or displaced when seen from certain angles, as shown here. (David Brauner)

Every photographer should start with the 50mm, the lens that trains and disciplines.

Another tip: Removed from the camera and reversed (outer element to the eye), any 50mm lens

held close to but not touching a processed film or contact sheet with a light source behind it makes a first-class loupe or magnifier for inspecting sharpness and detail. More about lenses next time.

## This washer was born free, with an urge to spin

KISHON'S KEYHOLE

EPHRAIM KISHON

THINGS keep happening in our household, I don't know why.

There was, for instance, the day the little woman came and told me we needed a new washing machine. I asked why, and she said the old one was getting old. I said all right, so go buy yourself a young one, but no more than one, mind you, and no fancy foreign brands, we've got to encourage local industry.

She's a great one for buying, my little one, and the very next day a handsome young domestic washing machine bedecked with knobs was already humming away merrily on our back porch.

It was a case of love at first wash: This machine could do everything on its own, from feeding itself soap flakes to spinning itself dry, as if endowed with a human brain.

And that's just it. On that Tuesday about noon my wife came to me with a slightly puzzled frown on her face, and said:

"Ephraim, it walks!"

I followed her to the kitchen porch and sure enough, our new washing machine, while busily spin-drying, was at the same time moving, with great leaps toward the kitchen. We brought it to a standstill right on the doorstep by pressing the red button, and took account of the situation.

Before long we discovered that it walked only as it spin-dried, seeing that this drum thing inside made it shake all over and then—

hop! hop! hop! — it started jumping around as if moved by some irresistible urge.

We didn't mind, really. Our house is no prison, after all, and if this machine felt like taking a stroll round the backyard, we saw no reason to stop it.

It turned out that we had been rather too permissive. One evening we suddenly heard a loud metallic crunch out there on the back porch, and when we went to investigate we found Amir's tricycle lying all twisted underneath our spin-drying machine.

The child cried like a child and beat his little fists against the sides of the offending gadget: "Look what you've done, you naughty machine, look what you've done!"

We tried to explain to him that the machine hadn't done it on purpose, that it had just been roaming around a little, found this tricycle and—hop!—jumped up on it, but Amir wouldn't listen to reason.

"There's nothing else to do," said the wife. "I'll have to tie Jonathan up..."

And she took a piece of string and tied our washing machine to the hot-water tap. I didn't feel too happy about it, but said nothing: it was her machine, after all, and she could tie it up if she wanted to.

Still, I can't deny that when we discovered Jonathan at the other end of the porch next morning, I was tickled pink. He had strained all the horsepowers he had and broken his bonds.

The woman only frowned and went for a new piece of string. This time she tethered him to the gas tanks, with the result that when he broke loose we not only

heard it, we smelled it.

In the end the woman gave up, since, as she said, it only made Jonathan nervous to be put on the leash. From then on we let him do his washing untrammelled.

Our machine, we told ourselves, was a noble creature — a free independent spirit. It only caused trouble once, when we were having some people over and it burst into the living room suddenly and frightened our guests... "Get out!" cried the wife. "Out! Go back where you belong!"

As if a washing machine can understand what you're saying to him! Hub. I calmly got up and pressed the red button, and that was that. Later, after our visitors had left, I restarted Jonathan in order to lead him back, but, like the lilies of the field, he toiled not, neither did he spin.

What had happened was that he'd already passed the spin-drying stage and, as you may remember, he only walked when he spun. We had to go through the whole process again to make him budge...

Amir, in the meantime, had made his peace with Jonathan too, and loved to get up on his back and sit there shouting, "Giddy-up, giddy-up!"

Charming. Jonathan does our laundry beautifully too, goes easy on the soap flakes, and except for this tendency of his to wander off now and then is altogether delightful.

Actually the little woman even suggested we make use of Jonathan's mobility — like send him to the grocery, she said. Why not?

I thought it wouldn't work, though. We'd have to give him a shopping list because he can't talk,

and then he might lose the list, or worse, get lost himself and never find his way home again. No point taking the risk just to save my wife a trip to the grocery.

On the other hand, Jonathan does love going out into the street. The little woman told me that Nicky's parents who live across the street got a new washing machine, a very pretty, petite Italian. Could that be it? Could Jonathan...?

The last thing we want is a houseful of little washing machines. Eventually we went to see a specialist who, it appeared, was quite familiar with our problem.

"Yes," he said, "I know the sort. They run when they spin. But they only do it if you put too little laundry in the drum: it upsets the centrifugal balance and jolts the machine. You ought to put a full load of at least eight pounds in, and then I promise your Jonathan will be quiet as a lamb..."

At home I found the little one weeding the garden, and informed her that our Jonathan only went on a centrifugal rampage for lack of dirty linen in his belly. The wife went pale.

"Good gracious!" she exclaimed. "And just now I put only four pounds in..."

Together we raced the porch. Our worst fears had come true: Jonathan was gone. With his electric cord.

I rushed out. "Jonathan!" I called. "Jonathan!"

I ran up and down the street, asking people if they'd seen a young, high-spirited washing machine anywhere, but nobody had. After an hour's search I gave up and went home, feeling terrible.

Maybe he'd got himself run over by a bus. Our Jonathan, free son of the industrial jungle, facing the dangers of the big city and its merciless bus drivers. Or maybe he'd come to the end of his spin in the middle of the road and could no longer move... Maybe he was standing there paralyzed in a whirl of traffic right now...

"Found him!" — the woman came running to meet me — He's here!

It turned out that while the wife was in the garden, the silly little thing had wandered off into the hall, had reached the basement steps, and had been stopped at the last moment by pulling his plug out of the socket — thus saving himself from a certain death.

"Enough!" the little woman said grimly. "Get out of your clothes!"

She went and collected every article of clothing in the house and stuffed Jonathan with a full nine pounds of washing. Jonathan toiled and spun — and stayed rooted to the spot like a lily. For weeks after, the woman would overload him like that and he just worked and worked.

My head bled for him.

One day I could stand it no longer.

I stopped him in a mid-spin and removed about three pounds of clothing from his drum. Jonathan took a few joyous leaps, then made straight for the pretty Italian across the street. He was humming loudly — the picture of a happy washing machine.

"Go, Jonathan!" — I patted his trembling flanks — "Go!"

And he went.

Translated by Miriam Arad

Lights the Lights, 8:30 p.m.  
Henry Crown □ Vermeer Quartet, 8 p.m.  
Rebecca Crown □ Blues guitarist Clem Clompson, 10 p.m.

ICC (BINYENI HA'UMA) □ Virsky Ballet, 8:30 p.m.

GERARD BEHAR □ Peppe Barra — Neapolitan songs, 8:30 p.m.

CAESAREA Roman theater □ Canadian Ballet — Sleeping Beauty, 8:30 p.m.

OTHER Dormition Abbey □ Jean Claude Mara — pan flute, 8:30 p.m.

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## When Tel Aviv was a castle in the air

THERE AND THEN

SRAYA SHAPIRO

AMBITION — or was it arrogance, as detractors often claimed — was never lacking in Tel Aviv's character.

Conceived as a garden suburb of Jaffa and then known as Ahuzat Bayit, Tel Aviv was referred to by its inhabitants and the world as the First Jewish City in Eretz Yisrael. Though the first buildings were modest bungalows whose owners seldom had the funds to engage a gardener, Akiva-Arie Weiss, the principal promoter of the project, wrote of "a city with a million inhabitants."

"The head of the local committee, Meir Dizengoff, was invariably addressed as 'Mister Mayor,' though Tel Aviv was awarded municipal status only in 1934, 25 years after the foundations of the first houses were laid," observes Anina Kaplan. As former director of the Historical Museum of Tel Aviv, Kaplan used to spread love and pride of her native city. When budgets for the project ran dry she resigned, nearly 10 years ago, after a couple of decades at the job.

"In a way, this 'Little Tel Aviv' was more of a metropolis than it is today, despite its spreading out," Kaplan says. "Tel Avivians used to think grand. What [did not yet exist] was imagined for the future."

The Eden building at the edge of town was theater, cinema and opera house in one. Abarbanel and Weiss, who built it, also erected the Casino — a ship-like structure bathed by waves, where Allenby Road meets the sea. "It was not a gambling house, just a pleasant place to take a drink on a Saturday morning to exchange the latest political gossip. The name lent it importance."

Abarbanel and Weiss also erected public baths by the seashore. "My mother used to take me there. It was believed that sea water invigorated."

Opposite the baths was the Hotel San Remo, a fashionable place where dances were held every afternoon, "as in a real spa."

Every second person you met in the street was a celebrity: a Bialik, a Mosensohn, a Ben-Gurion; or Avram the Carpenter, who mended chairs at the municipal council and was the right man to stop in the street for a shmooze.

The idea to preserve glimpses of Tel Aviv history for future generations first occurred to Dr. Moshe Altbauer, a debonair scholar in Slavonics who held an ill-defined post in the municipal administration. He was allotted two and a half rooms in the Shenkar building, just across the piazza from the Town Hall. He filled his rooms with any archival stuff he could lay his hands on. "He also put chairs there for people who wanted to hear lectures. The heat was insufferable; on a summer evening people fainted. When Altbauer was elevated to professorship at the Hebrew University, his place was taken by Kaplan."

It turned out that while the wife was in the garden, the silly little thing had wandered off into the hall, had reached the basement steps, and had been stopped at the last moment by pulling his plug out of the socket — thus saving himself from a certain death.

"Enough!" the little woman said grimly. "Get out of your clothes!"

She went and collected every article of clothing in the house and stuffed Jonathan with a full nine pounds of washing. Jonathan toiled and spun — and stayed rooted to the spot like a lily. For weeks after, the woman would overload him like that and he just worked and worked.

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"People used to tease me, they asked whether I was a Sephardi or Ashkenazi — and I used to retort: I am *Ivriya*, Hebrew!"

Kaplan served as mayor Yisrael Rokach's private secretary and continued in a similar capacity, with mayor Haim Levanon. "But when Mordechai Namir, a Mapai candidate, was elected, I asked to be transferred to a non-political niche. Altbauer was very glad I came to help him."

After the municipal offices moved from 27 Rehov Bialik to the new Town Hall on Rehov Ibn-Gabirol, the municipal council voted, after much prompting, to allot the old house to the budding Historical Museum of Tel Aviv.

Much research went into the project. "We consulted all possible sources, scanned all available libraries in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. We interviewed oldtimers. We sought pictures. The exhibits were a fair reminder of the town's inceptive years."

The visitor could see a blown-up photograph of the 66 Ahuzat Bayit members, waiting for lots to be drawn for the exact sites of their dream houses. Above the dune on which the event took place a young man is seen gesticulating wildly. "He is not Dizengoff, as many suppose, but the son of the local contractor — a convert Jew, by the way — who had built the Bella Vista Hotel on the shore in Neveh Shalom. The young man vituperated against the Ahuzat Bayit initiative, warning that no water would be found there, and the houses would collapse on the sands."

The tour ended with a picture of the ceremony of the Declaration of the State of Israel. Then the visitor would be taken to Dizengoff's office, where the first mayor's straw hat was left hanging on the hat rack.

"We had many visitors," Kaplan says. "Schoolchildren were regularly brought to see how their town emerged."

The library and archive can still be consulted on some days, but the visits have been stopped. "There are rumors that the municipality is being offered a NIS 1 million grant to reopen the museum, but the condition is that [the municipality] has to match the grant, with the present finances of the town, the prospects are scarce."

Anina Kaplan's love affair with Tel Aviv did not end with the closure of the museum. Former mayor or Shlomo "Chich" Lahat had been dealing with two municipal committees, one dealing with Works of Tel Aviv, and the other with street names. She was especially happy with the former.

"It was recognition for services rendered. They were elated that their past efforts had been appreciated. Chich was magnificent with them. He visited them when they fell ill, sent them flowers on their birthdays, attended their funerals."

She was less happy with the latter committee. "There are 200 applications to name streets for people who earned public gratitude for their contribution to society. But what can one do if Tel Aviv ran short of streets? A new rule requires that at least 75 percent of the inhabitants of a street agree to change the existing name. But nobody is likely to agree."

## THE JERUSALEM POST WELCOME HOME FUND



Immigration and absorption are tough enough, even for the strongest among us. And it's great if you can overcome the problems of culture shock, sudden illiteracy, isolation, unemployment and alienation — all by yourself.

But most do need help. The Jerusalem Post Welcome Home Fund provides new immigrants from Ethiopia, the former Soviet Union and other lands with appliances, bedding, heaters, clothing, shoes and school supplies. We also give vital grants for dental and medical care, tutoring and higher education.

So, if you think new immigrants should help themselves, do something which encourages just that. Give to The Jerusalem Post Welcome Home Fund. P.O. Box 81, 91000 Jerusalem, Israel.



## A guide for canine manners

HEADS 'N TAILS

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

A well behaved dog is, by and large, a dog that behaves as you wish it to.

If you allow the dog to sit in a comfortable chair or curl up on your bed, nobody can complain your dog isn't well trained. The dog is doing what you allow it to do.

So long as you are consistent in your demands, no harm is done. Naturally you cannot allow the dog on the sofa and then scold or punish it when it hops up there with muddy paws. The dog doesn't share your concern over stains on the upholstery.

But there are some rules all dog owners should follow: those concerning simple good manners.

Though we love our pets and don't like to hear them criticized, no dog should be allowed to jump up on people.

Not only can the dog tear stockings and stain or tear stock but

old, young or frail people can be knocked down, frightened and even harmed by this habit. And indeed, why should anyone have to put up with this sort of nuisance when they visit you?

The same thing goes for dogs that are allowed to roam free and bark at and frighten passersby. Even if the dog is harmless, people have the right to walk down the street without feeling threatened.

They also have the right to ride past on a bicycle without being plagued by a dog. Many people have had serious spills from just this sort of behavior.

If your dog chases and harasses cyclists then either teach it to desist or confine it. This also goes for

dogs that endanger their own lives by chasing motorized vehicles.

Then there is the matter of a dog's toilet habits. Why do so many people think it is perfectly all right for their dog to use the sidewalk as a toilet?

This is unpleasant and unsanitary. In many cities of the world it is forbidden by law — and would that it were in ours.

Either the dog should use the gutter of the street or the owner should carry equipment for removing the mess: two plastic bags can be used, one as a glove, the second as a receptacle.

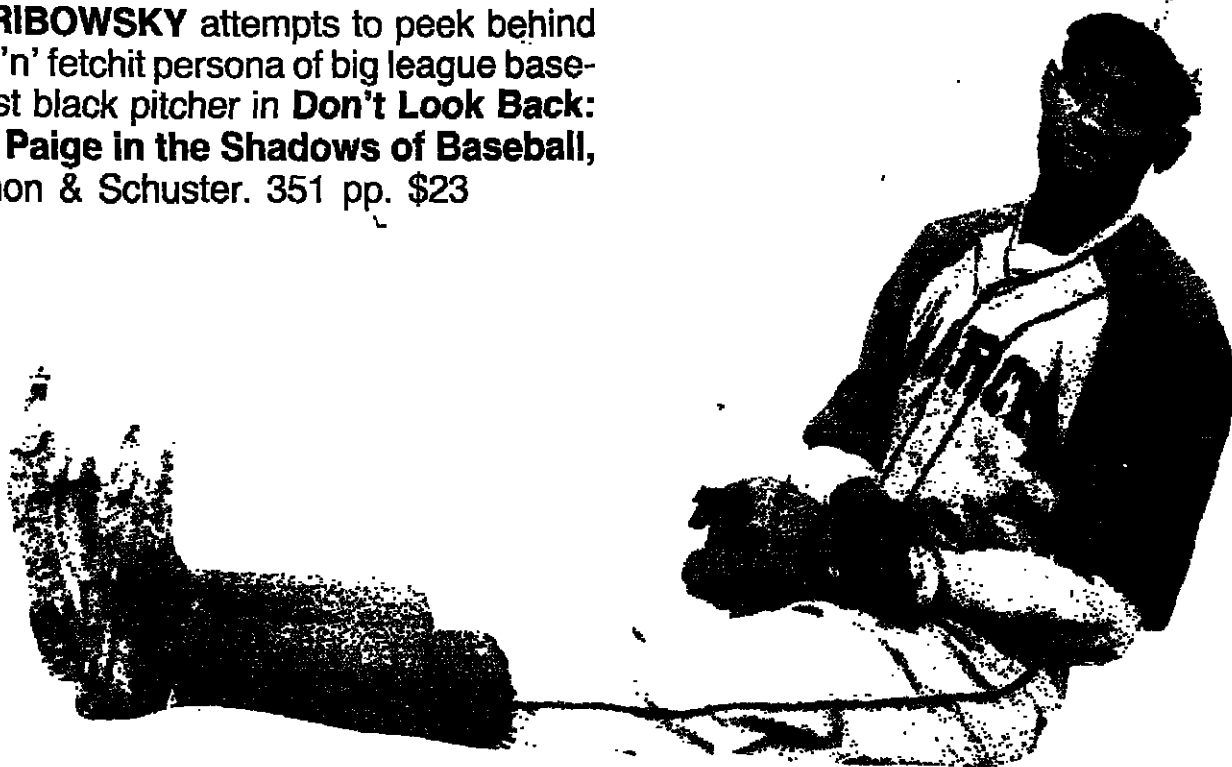
These may seem like simple suggestions but it is surprising that so many people who are basically well behaved never think of applying decent behavior to their pet's actions.

A lot of unpleasantness can be avoided by just a little consideration.



# Satchel, the original high-fiver

**MARK RIBOWSKY** attempts to peek behind the step 'n' fetchit persona of big league baseball's first black pitcher in **Don't Look Back: Satchel Paige in the Shadows of Baseball**, NY, Simon & Schuster. 351 pp. \$23



PATRICK GOLDSTEIN

IT isn't easy for athletes to be legends anymore. Over-analyzed by cranky sportswriters, noisily critiqued by morose sports talk-radio callers, their gravity-defying feats have been reduced to ESPN highlight-reel fodder. Just ask Barry Bonds, whose most enduring media moment remains his nasty on-the-field shouting match with then-manager Jim Leyland. Sports legend derives from larger-than-life feats, created away from the glare of the spotlight. It belongs to the oral tradition, tales told and retold, till they take on an appropriately mythic stature. Who knows if Babe Ruth really pointed to the right-field bleachers and called his shot in the 1932 World Series? Who actually saw Pete Gray, the St. Louis Browns' one-armed outfielder, in action, throwing a runner out at home plate? How many people got to watch Johnny Van Der Meer pitch a no-hitter — in two consecutive games? In baseball, the murkiest of all legends have sprung from the mythic twilight of the Negro Leagues. Thrown together during the sorry days of segregated sport, they showcased the young black gods of baseball, performing in the same cities — often in the same ballpark — as major-league players, sometimes even wearing the big-leaguers' discarded uniforms. That's where you'd find Leroy "Satchel" Paige, barnstorming across the country in wheezing buses, sleeping in fleabag hotels, playing in ramshackle bandboxes across town from the storied major-league ballparks. Of all the mythic stars of Negro baseball, Satchel was mythic-squared. Unhittable in his prime, he once struck out 22 men in a game, beat Bob Feller 1-0 in a 13-inning exhibition game and was so indomita-

ble he threw a no-hitter in the first game of a double-header and then pitched relief in the nightcap. After hitting .398 in the Pacific Coast League in 1935, Joe DiMaggio prepared for his rookie season with the New York Yankees by facing Paige in a much-ballyhooed exhibition game. The future Hall of Famer managed a measly infield hit in four trips to the plate, moving a Yankee scout to wire home: "DiMaggio all we hoped he'd be: hit Satch one for four." The legend simmered, soaking up its rich flavor in obscurity. As far as the white press was concerned, Paige (who was as celebrated in '30s-era black circles as Cab Calloway or Louis Armstrong) might as well have been pitching in Outer Mongolia. When Time finally discovered Paige in 1940 — 15 years into his career — it offered some legendary of its own. Attributing Satchel's arm strength to his boyhood shoddering of 200-pound blocks of ice, the news magazine quoted Paige's old ice-wagon employer as saying: "That boy et mo' than the hosses." Until now, that's been the Satch story: Print the caricature. But judging from *Don't Look Back*, Mark Ribowsky's meticulously researched biography, there is another, considerably starker — and less sentimental — side to Paige. Raised in the rough-and-tumble ghetto area of Mobile, Alabama, Paige was a restless, lonely man, a black shadow in a white-only world, his soul shrouded by a lack of acceptance, both from his family and the realm of big-time sport. Before he was 20, Paige had hit the road, learning his pitching

craft on baseball's chitlins circuit. Though Ribowsky is more successful at sketching the Negro League milieu than fleshing out Paige's character, the scrawny, rawboned pitcher emerges as a man of few loyalties, either to friend or team, indifferent to family ties, easily seduced by a pretty woman or a fat paycheck. Take away his wonderful wit and legendary showmanship and dare we say it — Satchel might be almost as hard to love as Barry Bonds. Resolutely unfaithful to every woman in his life, Paige was jealous of teammates' success, a hard-drinking carouser, habitually late to even the most important games and disdainful of anything resembling a training regime. Paige was at least 42 (some say 44 or even 48) when Cleveland Indians owner Bill Veeck finally brought him to the big leagues in 1948, a year after Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier. Making his first appearance in relief on July 9, he was the man who brought black vaudeville style to white sport, decades before the high five, the monster jam and the end-zone dance. Paige mystified batters with a carnival assortment of trick pitches. Using a double or even triple windup with a huge leg kick, he'd throw what he called a Step'n Pitch-it, a Bat Dodger and finally, his mind-boggling Hesitation Pitch, where he held back his right arm even as his front leg swept his body forward, releasing the ball almost as an afterthought. The first major-leaguer who tried to hit the Hesitation Pitch lunged and swung before the pitch

was half-way to the plate, his bat flying 40 feet up the third-base line. Satch was a sensation. By the time he started his first major-league game, 72,562 fans were at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium, a new attendance record for a major-league night game. Though well past his prime, Paige played parts of six seasons in the majors and was good enough to be named to the 1952 All-Star team. Never a friend to Robinson — he had given him the cold shoulder in the Negro Leagues — he displayed little of Robinson's credit-to-his-race good citizenship. Paige missed trains, broke curfew and carried around a gun a foot and a half long. His eccentricities won him huge play in the white press, which viewed him as post-integration baseball's answer to Louie Armstrong — Satchmo meet Satch — a happy-go-lucky old coot who rubbed mystery potions on his pitching arm, dozed in the bullpen grass and issued such maxims as, "If your stomach disputes you, lie down and pacify it with cool thoughts" and the immortal phrase (which Ribowsky borrows for his book title), "Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you." Aloof and enigmatic all the way to his grave, Paige seems to have defeated his biographer's best efforts to penetrate his inscrutable mind. None of Paige's offspring would talk to Ribowsky, while the dim memories of his ball-playing peers offer little in the way of insight. The book's evocative subtitle, "Satchel Paige in the Shadows of Baseball," is all too apt. For all Ribowsky's good efforts, the real shadow here is Satchel himself. (Los Angeles Times)

# Chang upset by Yzaga

Ivanisevic, Krickstein advance in French Open

PARIS (AP) — Peru's Jaime Yzaga thwarted a valiant comeback attempt by 1989 champion Michael Chang yesterday to reach the fourth round of the upset-filled French Open. Coupled with Magnus Larsson's defeat of No. 9 seed Todd Martin, Yzaga's 6-2, 6-3, 5-7, 1-6, 7-5 victory over the eighth-seeded Chang left only five of the 16 men's seeds in the field. Never before in the post-1968 Open Era have so few seeds reached the final 16. Larsson beat Martin, 6-7(7-5), 6-3, 6-0, 1-6, 6-3, one of five five-setters among eight men's matches on the schedule. Fifth-seeded Goran Ivanisevic, in one of the best comebacks of his career, rallied from a two-set deficit to beat Spain's Alex Corretja, 6-7(7-3), 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3. The Croatian is now the only seed among the eight players left in the bottom half of the draw. "There's no more respect for the seeded players anymore," said Ivanisevic. "It's more of an advantage not to be seeded."

Chang, who entered his match with a formidable 12-6 record in five-setters, seemed awed early on as Yzaga repeatedly pounded groundstrokes into the corners. But although the American took command midway through the match, Yzaga hung on and dropped to his knees in relief as the 4 hour, 25 minute match ended. Yzaga, 26, has won eight tournaments in a 10-year career, but never before got past the third round in eight previous French Opens. In other five-set thrillers, Javier Frana of Argentina beat Australia's Mark Woodforde, 6-4, 3-6, 6-0, 4-6, 10-8, and Germany's Hendrik Dreckmann, 19, rallied to beat American Richey Reneberg, 4-6, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4. Aaron Krickstein, who upset No. 2 seed Michael Stich in the second round, needed only four sets to beat Radomir Vasek, a qualifier from the Czech Republic, 6-3, 1-6, 6-3, 6-3. In a showdown of two of the

brightest new stars on the men's tour, Alberto Berasategui of Spain overpowered Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 in just 92 minutes. Among the women, second-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and No. 3 Conchita Martinez advanced with straight-set victories. But No. 9 Lindsay Davenport was ousted by Julie Halard of France, becoming the ninth women's seed to lose. Sanchez Vicario, one of the few potential threats to overwhelming favorite Steffi Graf, downed Germany's Barbara Rittner 6-4, 6-2. The 1989 champion has yet to lose a set in her three matches. Halard, who has risen to 24th in the world rankings after several strong performances this season, also triumphed 6-1, 6-2 over the 17-year-old Davenport, a rising star from California. Also reaching the fourth round, for the first time in 22 Grand Slams, was Shaun Stafford, who overcame fellow American Ann Grossman, 6-7(7-4), 6-3, 6-3.

# Surhoff's homer helps end Brewers' record losing streak

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The Milwaukee Brewers ended their club record 14-game losing streak, beating the Seattle Mariners 5-2 Friday night on B.J. Surhoff's three-run homer in the eighth inning. Brian Harper doubled off Bill Rife (2-3) with one out in the eighth and pinch-runner Matt Mieske took third on Dave Nilsson's flyout. Dave intentionally walked John Jaha to put runners at the corners, and Surhoff hit his first homer since September 1993. Cal Eldred (4-6) allowed two runs and six hits in eight innings, struck out nine and walked three. Mike Fetters pitched the ninth for his second save. Yankees 5, Royals 2 David Cone's 28-inning scoreless streak ended with a five-run first, and Jimmy Key won his sixth straight decision as the Yankees won on the road. Cone (8-2) pitched his fourth straight complete game, allowing eight hits, striking out two and walking two. Leftfielder Vince Coleman had a double error in the first and Daryl Boston hit a three-run homer. Rangers 4, Red Sox 3 Hector Fajardo (1-0), making his first start since October 1991, got his first big league victory and rookie Rusty Greer put Texas ahead with a two-run single in the bottom of the seventh. Roger Clemens allowed two runs and five hits in six innings with seven strikeouts and four walks, but play stoppages took their toll. The game was delayed by rain for 1 hour, 31 minutes in the first inning and by a power failure for 15 minutes in the second.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**  
Astros 4, Phillies 2  
Wild Thing was at it again. This time, his team escaped the trouble he created. On the night of his return to Philadelphia, Mitch Williams hit a batter and walked another in the ninth inning but the Houston Astros held on to win. Williams, traded to Houston in December 2 after giving up the World Series-winning home run to Toronto's Joe Carter, was greeted by a standing ovation as he took the mound in the ninth. He promptly walked Jim Euseareich, then hit Mickey Morandini in the back before getting Kim Baiste to fly to left. Houston manager Terry Collins saw enough and brought in rookie John Hudek, prompting boos from the 41,013 in Veterans Stadium. Scott Servais and Steve Finley hit solo homers in the seventh off Shawn Boskie (1-2).

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
East Division  
New York 31, L 13, Pct. .705, GB -  
Boston 28, L 17, .622, 3 1/2  
Baltimore 18, L 22, .501, 8  
Toronto 22, L 24, .478, 10  
Detroit 20, L 24, .455, 11  
Central Division  
Chicago 27, L 17, .614, -  
Cleveland 23, L 21, .523, 4  
Kansas City 22, L 22, .501, 4 1/2  
Minnesota 23, L 22, .511, 4 1/2  
Milwaukee 18, L 28, .391, 10  
West Division  
California 23, L 26, .469, -  
Texas 20, L 28, .415, 1  
Seattle 20, L 28, .415, 1 1/2  
Oakland 13, L 34, .277, 9  
**FRIDAY'S NL RESULTS:**  
Cincinnati 3, Oakland 2  
Cleveland 6, Toronto 2  
Milwaukee 5, Seattle 2  
Chicago 3, Baltimore 0  
Minnesota 5, Detroit 2  
New York 5, Kansas City 2  
Texas 4, Boston 3  
**THURSDAY'S AL RESULTS:**  
California 7, Detroit 5  
Kansas City 3, Texas 1  
Boston 13, Cleveland 5  
Only games scheduled

# Olajuwon 1st foreign-born player to win MVP

HOUSTON — Hakeem Olajuwon, who led the Houston Rockets to the Midwest Division title and the best record in franchise history, became the first foreign-born player to win the NBA's Most Valuable Player award. The Nigerian-born 7-foot (2.13-meter) center, who finished second to Phoenix's Charles Barkley in last year's MVP voting, beat out David Robinson of San Antonio and Scottie Pippen of Chicago for this year's honor. Olajuwon received 889 points, including 66 first-place votes, from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters, who each voted for five candidates with points awarded on a 10-7-5-3-1 basis. Robinson received 730 points and 24 first-place votes, while Pippen had 390 points and seven first-place votes. Shaquille O'Neal of Orlando received 289 points and Patrick Ewing of New York was next with 255. Olajuwon was the only player named on all 101 ballots. During the regular season, Olajuwon ranked third in the league in scoring, fourth in rebounding and second in blocks. He was the only NBA player to rank among the top five in all three categories. Olajuwon also shot .528 percent from the field, 10th best in the NBA. Barkley, whose Suns lost to the Rockets in the playoffs, agreed. "Hakeem is the MVP in the league, period," Barkley said recently.



Earlier this month, Olajuwon was named the NBA's defensive player of the year. He joins Michael Jordan as the only players to win the MVP and defensive

awards in the same season. "There's not another center in the league that can do all the things he does," said Portland star Clyde Drexler, who was Olajuwon's teammate at the University of Houston. "He has rare ability, but he makes it better because he works so hard. Her hustles every second he's out there." Olajuwon became the first center to win the award since Moses Malone of the Philadelphia 76ers in 1982-83. Born in Lagos, Olajuwon was first introduced to basketball in 1978 at a Nigerian teachers sports festival, where he was on the handball team for the Moslem Teachers College but later joined the basketball team. Olajuwon led the Rockets to a 58-24 regular-season record, including a record-tying 15-game winning streak to open the season. He has continued to excel in the playoffs, averaging 30.6 points while leading the Rockets to the Western Conference final against Utah. Olajuwon helped Houston's defense set franchise records for fewest points allowed (96.8 per game) and lowest field goal percentage by opponents (.440). He moved into third place on the NBA's career list for blocked shots, raising his total to 2,741. He trails only Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (3,189) and Mark Eaton (3,064). Seventeen players received at least one point in the MVP balloting, but only the top five finishers got first-place votes. The MVP receives the Maurice Podoloff Trophy, named for the league's first commissioner. (AP, Reuters)

# For Tony's sake: Cincinnati is doing it right this season

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati Reds are doing everything for manager Davey Johnson that they wish they could have done for Tony Perez. They're near the top of the National League in hitting and pitching, the two areas that doomed Perez to unemployment after just 44 games last year. Fill-ins are having career years and a bullpen full of castoffs and kids has been the league's best. Cincinnati's 27-20 start has given Johnson some job security and brought fun back to a clubhouse that was a miserable place after last May 24, when the popular Perez was fired with a 20-24 record. "I still think it was a bad deal," shortstop Barry Larkin said. "I've talked to Tony. He's happy with what he's doing. We're playing good baseball." "There's nothing that Davey is doing that Tony didn't do, and there's nothing that Tony did that Davey isn't doing. That's baseball." Perez's firing made the team rebellious, and accumulating injuries eventually made it resigned. Johnson came in and never had much of a chance, putting his job in jeopardy. "I could say most of us hated coming to the ballpark last year," first baseman Hal Morris said. "It was that bad, especially after the All-Star break. It was the worst situation I've been in since I've played baseball." So much has changed. Embattled general manager Jim Bowden successfully overhauled the bullpen and the bench. Johnson got married and moved from an isolated downtown apartment to a neighborhood, and players came back healthy and determined to avoid another nightmare. The good start has allowed everyone to relax and forget. "It was like a wasted year last year," Johnson said. The difference is striking. Johnson exudes confidence and talks about pennants. Injured players look

for excuses to stay in the lineup rather than get out of it. And the team has been in first place in the NL Central since the third day of the season. "I'll tell you why: because of what happened last year," Larkin said. "There was a lack of effort out there last year. It only changes around because the effort is there." "When you win, I think it breeds confidence. We're very confident." They were confident coming out of spring training last year, but injuries and bad luck got in the way. Perez had to muddle through with only two healthy starters, a shorthanded bullpen and a lineup missing its cleanup hitter. On the pitching staff, John Smiley had a bad elbow. Tom Browning wasn't fully recovered from reconstructive knee surgery, and closer Rob Dibble had a broken arm and hurt, and infielders Larkin, Bip Roberts and Chris Sabo were playing hurt. On top of it, the team started the season in a hitting slump. Johnson's key players have been healthy with the exception of Dibble, who is recovering from shoulder surgery, and catcher Joe Oliver, out with a bad ankle. And the fill-ins have done even better than the injured regulars. Catcher Brian Dorsett has hit around .300 and a bullpen featuring one player straight out of Class A in the minor leagues (Hector Carrasco) and another out of Double-A (Tim Fournier) has had an earned run average under 2.00. "Our bench and our bullpen are doing a great job," Johnson said. "That's what it takes to win pennants. That's what we're doing right now." It's the Reds' best start since 1990, when they opened 33-12 and won the NL West despite a 58-59 record the rest of the way.

# Following his father's footsteps

Brent Bishop scales Mt. Everest 31 years later

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Thirty years ago, Barry Bishop climbed Mount Everest with the first US team on the world's highest peak. Now his son Brent has come up to clean up the mess. Since Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay first conquered Everest in 1953, climbers have left tons of tents, plastic bottles, cans of food, oxygen tanks and assorted rubbish on the mountain. Brent Bishop's US Environmental Expedition brought down 5,000 pounds of trash, including 250 empty oxygen cylinders.

"Perhaps one of the bottles was from my father's expedition. Some bottles had markings of as early as the 1956 Swiss expedition," he said. He said his main goal was to return "without a scratch," unlike his father who lost all his toes and the tips of two fingers to frostbite. After he was evacuated by helicopter to a Katmandu hospital in 1963, Barry Bishop said, "On Everest, there are no victors, only survivors." The Bishops are the first American father-and-son combination to

have gained Everest's peak. The only other second generation climber to reach the summit was Peter Hillary, who scaled it four years ago. The Hillarys are from New Zealand. Sir Edmund, reached by telephone in Auckland, New Zealand, said climbers today have the "advantage of better knowledge and lighter gear." Brent Bishop finally reached Everest's summit on May 9 together with two American colleagues and a pair of Nepalese sherpa guides.

# 'King Roy' trains hard for Swiss World Cup success

GENEVA (Reuters) — Switzerland's largest circulation daily *Blick* has dubbed him "King Roy of England" in grateful appreciation. The weekly *Sport* called the charmer from the south London suburbs "Gentleman Roy" for his unfailing courtesy. Roy Hodgson, 47, became the toast of the nation and a household name when he steered Switzerland to the World Cup finals after a 28-year absence. After a 4-0 victory over Estonia in their last qualifying match to clinch a place in the US, Hodgson said: "This is the happiest day in my life. I have the best job in the world." "The next few months are going to be terrific and I anticipate a great World Cup show for us." A staunch advocate of attacking soccer and tight man-to-man marking, the Swiss coach has

proved to be a master tactician with his adept and intelligent reading of the game. Although a strict disciplinarian, Hodgson is diplomatic, open to discussion and respected by his players. He recently relaxed a "no sex" ban he had imposed on his World Cup players. Wives and girlfriends could now visit the players in their hotel rooms after the opening game against the US on June 18 and the last group match against Colombia on June 26. Hodgson had earlier ordered his players to remain celibate from June 7, the date of the squad's departure for the finals. Hodgson's playing career began in England with Crystal Palace, and continued at minor league side Maidstone before a spell with Brea Park in South Africa. His first coaching appointment was with

Swedish club Halmstad BK where he stayed from 1976-80. He returned to England as trainer with Bristol City from 1980-1982. Success came with his move to one of Sweden's leading clubs, Malmö. He guided them to five successive league titles from 1985-90, as well as two Cup triumphs. His first Swiss coaching experience was with Neuchâtel Xamax in 1990 and in January 1992 he traded places with then Swiss national coach and former German international Uli Stielike, for the Englishman, who has a good command of the country's three main languages, German, French and Italian. Most Swiss supporters had long since lost faith with the team. However, Hodgson has managed to revitalize it, winning a two-year extension to his contract until 1996 for his efforts.



# Rangers head for showdown with Canucks after 20T win

## Ewing's 32 lifts Knicks to 2-0 edge in East

12.00 Live tennis from Roland Garros 20.00  
Leisure sports magazine 20.30 Eurosport  
magazine 21.00 Golf 23.00 Tennis round-up  
from Roland Garros 00.00 Eurogoals 1.00  
Formula 1 from Spain 2.00 Eurosport news

**PRIZE SPONS**  
**5.00** Tegnris from Roland Garros **11.00** Golf  
**12.00** Superbike from Italy **15.00** Live tennis  
 from Roland Garros, women's semifinal  
**19.00** Soccer classics: World Cup 1966,  
 England vs Portugal **21.00** Golf **23.00** Ten-  
 nris from Roland Garros, women's semifinal

1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl *a*)

233340, US-313000. 01-000



## BUSINESS &amp; FINANCE

## Shares close mixed FTSE falls 53 points

## WALL STREET REPORT

## WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

## Key Representative Rates

	Change
US dollar ...NIS 3.0230	-0.0001
Sterling ...NIS 4.5616	-0.0001
Mark ...NIS 1.8403	-0.0001

## NEW YORK STOCK MARKETS

## New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	3752.14	+3.88
DJ Composite	3752.14	+3.88
DJ 30	3752.14	+3.88
NYSE	3752.14	+3.88
NYSE Transp.	3752.14	+3.88
NASDAQ	3752.14	+3.88
S&P 500	3752.14	+3.88
S&P 500 Ind.	3752.14	+3.88
AMEX Comp.	3752.14	+3.88

## Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	2295.4	+0.0
Tokyo Nikkei	20771.1	+21.0
Hong Kong Hang Seng	9470.13	+0.0

## Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
NYSE / AMEX	44.5	+0.5
Amel	8.375	+0.125
Amel A	8.375	+0.125
Amel B	8.375	+0.125
Amel C	8.375	+0.125
Amel D	8.375	+0.125
Amel E	8.375	+0.125
Amel F	8.375	+0.125
Amel G	8.375	+0.125
Amel H	8.375	+0.125
Amel I	8.375	+0.125
Amel J	8.375	+0.125
Amel K	8.375	+0.125
Amel L	8.375	+0.125
Amel M	8.375	+0.125
Amel N	8.375	+0.125
Amel O	8.375	+0.125
Amel P	8.375	+0.125
Amel Q	8.375	+0.125
Amel R	8.375	+0.125
Amel S	8.375	+0.125
Amel T	8.375	+0.125
Amel U	8.375	+0.125
Amel V	8.375	+0.125
Amel W	8.375	+0.125
Amel X	8.375	+0.125
Amel Y	8.375	+0.125
Amel Z	8.375	+0.125

## Dollar crosses mostly lower

## CURRENCY REPORT

	Last	Change
US dollar	3.0230	-0.0001
Sterling	4.5616	-0.0001
Mark	1.8403	-0.0001

## Inflation worries scare market

## WALL STREET WEEK

## NEW YORK (AP) - Mere whis-

pers about inflation can send investors running for the nearest exits. But is inflation truly a threat, or are investors and analysts - many of whom remember the black days of double-digit price increases in the 1970s - overreacting?

Stock investors are extra jittery these days about inflation, which raises corporate borrowing costs and cuts into profits. This past week, the culprit on the inflation watch was commodity prices.

On Monday, the Knight-Ridder Commodity Research Bureau index of 21 commodities, which had reached its highest levels since October 1990, shot up another 4.67 points to 238.36. The rise in commodity prices sent the Dow Jones industrial average tumbling nearly 23 points.

Then on Tuesday, the Dow followed bond prices slightly higher, rising 2.76 points after grain prices fell in response to rain forecasts.

The CRB index backed off later, closing Friday at 230.88 and helping to ease the market's fears.

On Friday, the Dow industrials closed at 3,757.14, up 3.68 for the day but down 9.21 for the week.

Investor confusion about inflation is understandable, since credible economists come down on both sides of the issue.

Some analysts look at the rise in the CRB index and a similar rise in

ward from an originally reported 2.6% rise. Many economists had expected the number to fall, not rise, and it signaled that the economy was stronger in the first quarter than they had thought.

Bond investors don't like signs of a strong economy, because that can stir up inflation, which erodes the value of fixed-income securities. Stocks have been trading close to bonds for some time.

But an inflation index tied to the GDP actually proved tame. It rose at a moderate annual rate of 2.6% in the first quarter this year, unchanged from an earlier estimate.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials rose 3.68 to 3,757.14. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by 1,135 to 909 on the New York Stock Exchange, with 750 unchanged.

Big Board volume totaled 186.41 million shares as of 4 p.m. against 254.38 million in the previous session.

The NYSE's composite index rose 0.18 to 252.79. The Nasdaq index rose 0.84 to 732.48.

At the American Stock Exchange, the market value index rose 1.32 to 440.94.

Gold prices were higher. On the Commodity Exchange in New York, gold for current delivery rose 80 cents to \$384.70. Republic National Bank said the spot price of gold was \$384.20, down \$2.40 cents.

The dollar weakened up and down in light trading that was mostly technically driven. Traders said the dollar rose early in the day

against the German mark and Japanese yen on comments from Federal Reserve Chairman Allan Greenspan, who told a Senate Banking Committee that he was concerned with the dollar's behavior in recent months.

The dollar initially traded up on early news from the US government that the first quarter's gross domestic product - a key economic indicator - had been revised up to three percent from an earlier 2.6% estimate.

The stock and bond markets, which had expected a downward revision, fell after the report on inflationary fears.

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LONDON (Reuters) - The FTSE 100 index ended at its lowest level of the year, as speculators took advantage of thin market conditions to push the June FTSE futures and cash markets lower.

At the official close, the FTSE 100 index ended down 53.3 points, or 1.77 percent, at 2,966.4, a drop of 160.9 on the week.

ZURICH - Swiss shares ended firmer but below earlier highs amid statistical evidence that the Swiss economy was gaining momentum while inflation was low. Some profit-taking ahead of the weekend brought prices down from earlier highs. The Broad SPI index closed up 11.75 at 1,780.16.

TOKYO - Strong buying of export-oriented, blue-chip electrical shares and large-capital stock issues propelled Tokyo stocks higher, with both the Nikkei and TOPIX indices posting new 1994 closing highs. The Nikkei ended up 281.36 points or 1.37 percent to 20,777.16. A gain of 434.99 points on the week.

HONG KONG - Shares ended down but off lows, regaining the 9,400 level in moderate trade. The blue-chip Hang Seng index was down 46.73 points to 9,434.98. A fall of 196.65 points since last Friday.

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# Kalkilya man shot dead in chase

ONE man was killed and one lightly injured during a car chase early Friday morning that began when a suspicious car in Ramat Hasharon refused to stop on the orders of Civil Guard volunteers.

Kamal Karani, 21, of Kalkilya, was shot dead during the chase, after the driver of the car tried to run over one of the civil guardsmen. The injured man and two other men in the car, also residents of the territories, were remanded for seven days Friday in Tel Aviv Magistrates Court.

RAINE MARCUS

Dan police chief Cmdr. Ya'acov Raz said the four had apparently crossed the Green Line to commit criminal, rather than terrorist acts. Burglary equipment, a knife and a blue license plate were found in the car.

The drama began on Ramat Hasharon's Ussishkin Street, when a red car aroused the suspicions of the two Civil Guard volunteers. A check with police computers showed that the license plates be-

longed to a different car that had been taken off the road a few years ago because it wasn't roadworthy. The volunteers signaled the car to stop, but the driver refused and a chase began through the streets of Ramat Hasharon. On Sokolov Street, the volunteers succeeded in overtaking the vehicle and blocked the road. One got out and again signaled to the driver to stop. Instead, the driver tried to run the civil guardsman over, and

leaping aside, the volunteer fired at the car.

Meanwhile, the volunteers had alerted police, and roadblocks were set up at all major junctions. The chase continued after the car, which sped through several red lights, until it reached the Kassem junction near Petah Tikva, where police had erected a spiked road block. The driver lost control when he collided with the obstacle and swerved into the opposite lane and then off the road, where it overturned.

## Uproar over judge's 'no' to Meshulam

A TEL AVIV District Court judge was called a "Nazi" and accused of protecting Nazis by Uzi Meshulam and one of his followers, after the judge on Friday rejected their appeals against their detention.

Meshulam and his followers were reasonably quiet until Judge Amnon Hummer read his decision. But Meshulam and Natan Shifris cried "Nazi," "Ashkenazi discrimination" and accused Hummer of "protecting Nazis" after he refused to allow Meshulam a furlough to attend his brother's wedding on Tuesday.

While defense lawyers Dr. Haim Misgav and Shmuel Fleishman had appealed for the release of all their clients, a specific request to allow Meshulam out for a few hours was turned down.

"This is inhuman," said Misgav yesterday, who has appealed to

RAINE MARCUS

the Supreme Court to allow Meshulam to attend the wedding. Misgav and Fleishman claim their clients are not a danger to the public, and that proposed charges of attempted murder, espionage, rebellion and shooting in an occupied area are "exaggerated and ridiculous."

"Although my clients have been in Abu Kabir for more than two weeks they have only been questioned twice," said Misgav, who asked Hummer to examine each client's case individually, rather than lump them together as a group.

"If released or placed under house arrest," said Misgav, "my clients [aside from Meshulam] will not return to the Yehud house but will stay at their respective homes."

Meshulam and his followers were arrested following a six-week siege, during which they holed themselves up in Meshulam's Yehud house, with an arsenal of weapons. In the massive police operation to end the siege, 19-year-old soldier Shlomo Assouline was killed by police when he fired at a police helicopter.

In rejecting the appeal, Hummer said that individuals were entitled to fight for a cause but that acceptable methods were limited and should be democratic to avoid anarchy.

"The suspects' behavior is dangerous to the public and we cannot allow such methods," said Hummer.

As the suspects began to riot in the courtroom, Hummer said their behavior only strengthened his decision to keep them in custody.

## Hookworm carried by half of Thai workers

JUDY SIEGEL

HALF of all Thai agricultural workers tested here are infected with hookworm, a parasite that could spread if the condition is not treated and the workers are not taught proper hygiene.

This warning was issued in the latest issue of the medical journal *Harefuah* by Zalman Greenberg and Leumit Gilado of the Health Ministry's public health laboratory, and Anita Bashari and Hanna Zahavi of the Jerusalem District Health Office.

The health workers took fecal samples from 93 Thai workers in Jordan Valley settlements. Three-quarters of the workers were found to be infected by either the *Opisthorchis viverrini* parasite or the hookworm or both.

Thailand, said the authors, is known to be endemic with parasite infections. The *Opisthorchis viverrini* is not a health threat, as it requires transmission by snails and other vectors that exist only in east Asia.

However, the authors said the threat from hookworms is real, because they can be transmitted by contact with earth where carriers defecated.

No comment was immediately available on the matter from Dr. Alex Levinthal, head of the Health Ministry's public-health department.



Shimon Peres after his arrival in Mexico City.

(Reuter)

## Peres talks free trade in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Israel is exploring a possible free trade pact with Mexico along the lines of the North American Free Trade Agreement, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Friday.

Peres said trade was the main topic in his talks here with Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and was part of an effort "to enlarge and enrich relations between Mexico and Israel."

Both have free trade agreements with the United States. NAFTA linked Mexico with the United States and Canada when it took effect January 1.

Peres acknowledged that Israel

cannot join NAFTA, but he said Israel and Mexico can seek ways to adjust their policies to expand commercial ties. He did not elaborate.

Peres said he also discussed with Salinas ways of eliminating double taxation in the two countries, building ties for research and development in science and technology, and intensifying cultural exchanges.

Israel has been providing technology for agricultural development of Mexico, including irrigation techniques for cultivating desert lands in the arid regions of the northwest.

## US pressure to mount for non-proliferation treaty

AS THE 1995 renewal of the nuclear weapons Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) nears, Israel expects international and American pressure to mount for it to enter the treaty as a signatory, an Israeli source said yesterday.

The source said that long-range threats require Israel to preserve the traditional policy of nuclear ambiguity. "The US knows all too well that the price of peace requires that we keep our options open," said the source.

Israel never signed the 1968

ALON PINKAS

treaty, although it has maintained "adherence" to its principles. Now that the US administration has made arms control and non-proliferation a foreign policy priority, and included arms control in the framework of the multilateral peace talks, both diplomatic and military circles expect increased pressure on Israel to sign the treaty.

What form that pressure will take remains unclear, said the

source, because "the Clinton administration has so far refrained from trying to impose anything on Israel."

Israel has contended for years that the Non-Proliferation Treaty serves to bring countries into the nuclear club, rather than preventing or controlling nuclearization, as by Iraq, a treaty signatory.

But now that France and South Africa have agreed to sign the treaty, Israel's arguments will need redefining, diplomatic sources said.

## Arab invitees refuse to attend conference

### 600 experts coming to give family multidisciplinary study

SOME 600 participants from 20 countries are attending a conference on the family here this week.

The International Conference on the Family on the Threshold of the 21st Century is the first-ever multidisciplinary congress on this subject.

The conference, which marks the UN Year of the Family, was initiated four years ago by the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev's Center for Family Life Research and Counseling and its director, clinical psychologist Dr. Solly Dremann.

It will open tomorrow morning

JUDY SIEGEL

at Jerusalem's Holiday Inn and then move to BGU in Beersheba for a post-conference seminar on Thursday.

Among the professionals attending will be psychologists, criminologists, dieticians, physicians, nurses, psychiatrists and social workers.

Dremann said last week he had invited Palestinians and representatives from Arab countries, but no one accepted. The conference, sponsored by the Science and Arts

Ministry, will be "the first social-science conference in eight years to get financial backing from the ministry," according to Dremann.

The diverse subjects include the effects of immigration on family life, new trends in family relationships, marital therapy, women's careers in Arab families, *agunot*, divorce, adoption, family life in a refugee camp, coping with mental illness, *remarriage among the elderly*, stress on adolescents in the Golan Heights, family problems among second-generation Holocaust survivors and growing up in a lesbian family.

## Man's lie costs 14 months in Shai Fhima case

EMILY TORGAN

NEW YORK

A man who knew of missing teenager Shai Fhima's whereabouts and was convicted of lying to a grand jury investigating the disappearance of Shai Fhima Reuven, was sentenced to 14 months in prison and two years' probation by a federal judge on Thursday. Tobias Freund is to surrender to authorities on June 24.

Fhima, presently 15, disappeared April 5, 1992, shortly after his mother, Hana Fhima, took him to Rabbi Shlomo Helbrans for bar mitzva lessons. Shai's divorced parents, who are not observant, charged that their son was kidnapped and brainwashed by Helbrans, who is scheduled to be tried in June.

According to *New York Newsday*, evidence at Freund's trial showed that, despite his denials, he was communicating with Helbrans and his followers during Fhima's disappearance, knew of Fhima's whereabouts, and helped transport him to a home in Monroe County.

## Four killed on roads

FOUR people were killed in road accidents this weekend, three of them pedestrians. Shmuel Yosef, 36, from Kiryat Maslachi was killed in a hit-and-run accident near Be'er Tuvia.

An unidentified Palestinian pedestrian walking on the road to Ariel was killed by an Israeli car. In Acre, 63-year-old Frieda Opping was killed while crossing a road Friday evening.

Also on Friday night, near Faradis, Camel Camel from Dalfat al Carmel was killed when he lost control of the car he was driving.

## LIBI'S WARM CORNER

LIBI - The Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense

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## Desert ecology meet in Mitzpe Ramon

MITZPE Rimon is to host an international conference next month on methods of rolling back the desert.

"The town is the best living example of ecological sustainability in an arid region," said Moshe Rivlin, chairman of the JNF, which last week wound up a week of festivities to mark the completion of its infrastructure and afforestation projects in the area.

The conference will bring together participants from the Far East, Africa, Latin America and Moslem republics of the former Soviet Union under the aegis of the International Arid Lands Consortium.

The consortium was set up by the US Department of Agriculture's forest service and the JNF in conjunction with five

American universities. Some of the sessions will be held in Jerusalem.

Mitzpe Rimon, with a population of 7,000, today boasts a variety of accommodations from a plush hotel to simple huts, and offers visitors unique views of the crater and desert tours, Rivlin said. However, some 17% of the residents are unemployed, among them many of the 2,000 new immigrants who decided to make the desert town their home. Some 10% of the unemployed are given seasonal work with the JNF.

Meanwhile, almost 300 delegates from 20 countries are due here today to participate in a world conference of JNF leaders in Jerusalem. The last such conference was held three years ago also in the capital.

## Uncle Sam, Israel in joint CIS venture

HILLEL KUTTNER

WASHINGTON

IN the first agreement of its kind, the US and Israel plan to conduct joint business ventures in the former Soviet Union.

The countries aim to match American entrepreneurs with Soviet-born olim who are familiar with business opportunities in their former homeland.

Ruth Harkin, president of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), who signed the agreement here Wednesday with Israeli Finance Ministry director-general Aharon Fogel, called it a "win-win situation for all nations involved."

The two sides will now meet to identify potential projects in the Commonwealth of Independent States, particularly Russia and the Central Asian republics.

OPIC is a US agency which provides loans and insurance guaran-

tees for American companies seeking to invest abroad.

Following the signing of the Oslo accord, it began making available loan guarantees worth \$125 million to businesses wishing to branch out into the new Palestinian-administered areas.

An OPIC official said yesterday that the agency "has a mandate from the Clinton administration to help the economies of the CIS."

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